A/67/49 (Vol. I)

**United Nations**

# Resolutions and Decisions
## adopted by the General Assembly during its sixty-seventh session

## Volume I

## Resolutions

## 18 September – 24 December 2012

**General Assembly**
**Official Records • Sixty-seventh Session**
**Supplement No. 49**

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18 September – 24 December 2012

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## NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

### Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

### Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

### Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

* * *

The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 18 September to 24 December 2012, as well as the information requested by the Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the sixty-seventh session will be published in volume III.

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## RESOLUTION 67/1

Adopted at the 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.1, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

### 67/1. Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels

*The General Assembly*

*Adopts* the following declaration:

### Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels

We, Heads of State and Government, and heads of delegation have gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 24 September 2012 to reaffirm our commitment to the rule of law and its fundamental importance for political dialogue and cooperation among all States and for the further development of the three main pillars upon which the United Nations is built: international peace and security, human rights and development. We agree that our collective response to the challenges and opportunities arising from the many complex political, social and economic transformations before us must be guided by the rule of law, as it is the foundation of friendly and equitable relations between States and the basis on which just and fair societies are built.

#### I

1. We reaffirm our solemn commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and justice, and to an international order based on the rule of law, which are indispensable foundations for a more peaceful, prosperous and just world.

2. We recognize that the rule of law applies to all States equally, and to international organizations, including the United Nations and its principal organs, and that respect for and promotion of the rule of law and justice should guide all of their activities and accord predictability and legitimacy to their actions. We also recognize that all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to just, fair and equitable laws and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.

3. We are determined to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We rededicate ourselves to support all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, to respect their territorial integrity and political independence, to refrain in our international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and to uphold the resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the right to self-determination of peoples which remain under colonial domination and foreign occupation, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and the fulfilment in good faith of the obligations assumed in accordance with the Charter.

4. We reaffirm the duty of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means, inter alia through negotiation, enquiry, good offices, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and judicial settlement, or other peaceful means of their own choice.

5. We reaffirm that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations.

6. We reaffirm the solemn commitment of our States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and the observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. The universal nature of these rights and freedoms is beyond question. We emphasize the responsibilities of all States, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind.

7. We are convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, all of which in turn reinforce the rule of law, and for this reason we are convinced that this interrelationship should be considered in the post-2015 international development agenda.

8. We recognize the importance of fair, stable and predictable legal frameworks for generating inclusive, sustainable and equitable development, economic growth and employment, generating investment and facilitating entrepreneurship, and in this regard we commend the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in modernizing and harmonizing international trade law.

9. States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries.

10. We recognize the progress made by countries in advancing the rule of law as an integral part of their national strategies. We also recognize that there are common features founded on international norms and standards which are reflected in a broad diversity of national experiences in the area of the rule of law. In this regard, we stress the importance of promoting the sharing of national practices and of inclusive dialogue.

11. We recognize the importance of national ownership in rule of law activities, strengthening justice and security institutions that are accessible and responsive to the needs and rights of all individuals and which build trust and promote social cohesion and economic prosperity.

12. We reaffirm the principle of good governance and commit to an effective, just, non-discriminatory and equitable delivery of public services pertaining to the rule of law, including criminal, civil and administrative justice, commercial dispute settlement and legal aid.

13. We are convinced that the independence of the judicial system, together with its impartiality and integrity, is an essential prerequisite for upholding the rule of law and ensuring that there is no discrimination in the administration of justice.

14. We emphasize the right of equal access to justice for all, including members of vulnerable groups, and the importance of awareness-raising concerning legal rights, and in this regard we commit to taking all necessary steps to provide fair, transparent, effective, non-discriminatory and accountable services that promote access to justice for all, including legal aid.

15. We acknowledge that informal justice mechanisms, when in accordance with international human rights law, play a positive role in dispute resolution, and that everyone, particularly women and those belonging to vulnerable groups, should enjoy full and equal access to these justice mechanisms.

16. We recognize the importance of ensuring that women, on the basis of the equality of men and women, fully enjoy the benefits of the rule of law, and commit to using law to uphold their equal rights and ensure their full and equal participation, including in institutions of governance and the judicial system, and recommit to establishing appropriate legal and legislative frameworks to prevent and address all forms of discrimination and violence against women and to secure their empowerment and full access to justice.

17. We recognize the importance of the rule of law for the protection of the rights of the child, including legal protection from discrimination, violence, abuse and exploitation, ensuring the best interests of the child in all actions, and recommit to the full implementation of the rights of the child.

18. We emphasize the importance of the rule of law as one of the key elements of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, stress that justice, including transitional justice, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, and stress the need for the international community, including the United Nations, to assist and support such countries, upon their request, as they may face special challenges during their transition.

19. We stress the importance of supporting national civilian capacity development and institution-building in the aftermath of conflict, including through peacekeeping operations in accordance with their mandates, with a view to delivering more effective civilian capacities, as well as enhanced, international, regional, North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, including in the field of the rule of law.

20. We stress that greater compliance with international humanitarian law is an indispensable prerequisite for improving the situation of victims of armed conflict, and we reaffirm the obligation of all States and all parties to armed conflict to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law in all circumstances, and also stress the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of international humanitarian law at the national level.

21. We stress the importance of a comprehensive approach to transitional justice incorporating the full range of judicial and non-judicial measures to ensure accountability, serve justice, provide remedies to victims, promote healing and reconciliation, establish independent oversight of the security system and restore confidence in the institutions of the State and promote the rule of law. In this respect, we underline that truth-seeking processes, including those that investigate patterns of past violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and their causes and consequences, are important tools that can complement judicial processes.

22. We commit to ensuring that impunity is not tolerated for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity or for violations of international humanitarian law and gross violations of human rights law, and that such violations are properly investigated and appropriately sanctioned, including by bringing the perpetrators of any crimes to justice, through national mechanisms or, where appropriate, regional or international mechanisms, in accordance with international law, and for this purpose we encourage States to strengthen national judicial systems and institutions.

23. We recognize the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity and establish the rule of law, and in this respect we welcome the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[1] and call upon all States that are not yet parties to the Statute to consider ratifying or acceding to it, and emphasize the importance of cooperation with the Court.

24. We stress the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, in order to dismantle illicit networks and counter the world drug problem and transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law.

25. We are convinced of the negative impact of corruption, which obstructs economic growth and development, erodes public confidence, legitimacy and transparency and hinders the making of fair and effective laws, as well as their administration, enforcement and adjudication, and therefore stress the importance of the rule of law as an essential element in addressing and preventing corruption, including by strengthening cooperation among States concerning criminal matters.

26. We reiterate our strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes, as it constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security; we reaffirm that all measures used in the fight against terrorism must be in compliance with the obligations of States under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the purposes and principles thereof, and relevant conventions and protocols, in particular human rights law, refugee law and humanitarian law.

## II

27. We recognize the positive contribution of the General Assembly, as the chief deliberative and representative organ of the United Nations, to the rule of law in all its aspects through policymaking and standard setting, and through the progressive development of international law and its codification.

28. We recognize the positive contribution of the Security Council to the rule of law while discharging its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

29. Recognizing the role under the Charter of the United Nations of effective collective measures in maintaining and restoring international peace and security, we encourage the Security Council to continue to ensure that sanctions are carefully targeted, in support of clear objectives and designed carefully so as to minimize possible adverse consequences, and that fair and clear procedures are maintained and further developed.

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

30. We recognize the positive contribution of the Economic and Social Council to strengthening the rule of law, pursuing the eradication of poverty and furthering the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

31. We recognize the positive contribution of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, including in adjudicating disputes among States, and the value of its work for the promotion of the rule of law; we reaffirm the obligation of all States to comply with the decisions of the International Court of Justice in cases to which they are parties; and we call upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with its Statute. We also recall the ability of the relevant organs of the United Nations to request advisory opinions from the International Court of Justice.

32. We recognize the contributions of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, as well as other international courts and tribunals, in advancing the rule of law at the international and national levels.

33. We commend the work of the International Law Commission in advancing the rule of law at the international level through the progressive development of international law and its codification.

34. We recognize the essential role of parliaments in the rule of law at the national level, and welcome the interaction among the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

35. We are convinced that good governance at the international level is fundamental for strengthening the rule of law, and stress the importance of continuing efforts to revitalize the General Assembly, to reform the Security Council and to strengthen the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions.

36. We take note of the important decisions on reform of the governance structures, quotas and voting rights of the Bretton Woods institutions, better reflecting current realities and enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries, and we reiterate the importance of the reform of the governance of those institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions.

### III

37. We reaffirm that States shall abide by all their obligations under international law, and stress the need to strengthen support to States, upon their request, in the national implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building.

38. We stress the importance of international cooperation and invite donors, regional, subregional and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as relevant civil society actors, including non-governmental organizations, to provide, at the request of States, technical assistance and capacity-building, including education and training on rule of law-related issues, as well as to share practices and lessons learned on the rule of law at the international and national levels.

39. We take note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Delivering justice: programme of action to strengthen the rule of law at the national and international levels".[2]

40. We request the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among the United Nations entities and with donors and recipients to improve the effectiveness of rule of law capacity-building activities.

41. We emphasize the importance of continuing our consideration and promotion of the rule of law in all its aspects, and to that end we decide to pursue our work in the General Assembly to develop further the linkages between the rule of law and the three main pillars of the United Nations: peace and security, human rights and development. To that end, we request the Secretary-General to propose ways and means of developing, with wide stakeholder participation, further such linkages, and to include this in his report to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

42. We acknowledge the efforts to strengthen the rule of law through voluntary pledges in the context of the high-level meeting, and encourage States that have not done so to consider making pledges individually or jointly, based on their national priorities, including pledges aimed at sharing knowledge, best practices and enhancing international cooperation, including regional and South-South cooperation.

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[2] A/66/749.

## RESOLUTION 67/3

Adopted at the 30th plenary meeting, on 5 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.3 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia

### 67/3. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

*The General Assembly*,

*Having received* the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 2011,[3]

*Taking note* of the statement by the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2012,[4]

*Recognizing* the importance of the work of the Agency,

*Recognizing also* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency and the Agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the Agency as approved by the General Conference of the Agency on 23 October 1957 and by the General Assembly in the annex to its resolution 1145 (XII) of 14 November 1957,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;[3]

2. *Takes note* of resolutions GC(56)/RES/9 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety; GC(56)/RES/10 on nuclear security; GC(56)/RES/11 on the strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities; GC(56)/RES/12 on strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications, comprising GC(56)/RES/12 A on non-power nuclear applications and GC(56)/RES/12 B on nuclear power applications; GC(56)/RES/13 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol; GC(56)/RES/14 on the implementation of the Agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; and GC(56)/RES/15 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East; and decisions GC(56)/DEC/9 on the amendment to article XIV.A of the Statute of the Agency and GC(56)/DEC/10 on the promotion of efficiency and effectiveness of the Agency's decision-making process, adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its fifty-sixth regular session, held from 17 to 21 September 2012;

3. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the indispensable role of the Agency in encouraging and assisting the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, in technology transfer to developing countries and in nuclear safety, verification and security;

4. *Appeals* to Member States to continue to support the activities of the Agency;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

## RESOLUTION 67/4

Adopted at the 35th plenary meeting, on 13 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 188 to 3, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.2, sponsored by Cuba

* *In favour*: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia,

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[3] See A/67/152.

[4] See A/67/152/Add.1.

Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

## 67/4. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

*The General Assembly*,

*Determined* to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming*, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

*Recalling* the statements of the Heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

*Concerned* about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as "the Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

*Taking note* of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of measures of the kind referred to above,

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999, 55/20 of 9 November 2000, 56/9 of 27 November 2001, 57/11 of 12 November 2002, 58/7 of 4 November 2003, 59/11 of 28 October 2004, 60/12 of 8 November 2005, 61/11 of 8 November 2006, 62/3 of 30 October 2007, 63/7 of 29 October 2008, 64/6 of 28 October 2009, 65/6 of 26 October 2010 and 66/6 of 25 October 2011,

*Concerned* that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20, 56/9, 57/11, 58/7, 59/11, 60/12, 61/11, 62/3, 63/7, 64/6, 65/6 and 66/6, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 66/6;[5]

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[5] A/67/118.

2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution, in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

## RESOLUTION 67/5

Adopted at the 37th plenary meeting, on 14 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.4 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Jamaica, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay

### 67/5. Plenary meetings of the General Assembly on 10 and 11 December 2012 devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and to the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[6] was opened for signature on 10 December 1982 in Montego Bay, Jamaica,

*Recognizing* the personalities who served as officers of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea or who otherwise contributed untiringly towards the conclusion of the Convention and its adoption on 30 April 1982,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/231 of 24 December 2011, in which it decided to devote two days of plenary meetings at its sixty-seventh session, on 10 and 11 December 2012, to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention, including special recognition of the crucial role played by Ambassador Arvid Pardo of Malta and, in particular, his visionary speech delivered on 1 November 1967 before the General Assembly, leading to the adoption of the Convention, and encouraged Member States and observers to be represented at the highest possible level,

*Recognizing* the recommendation of the General Committee to the General Assembly that it adopt a format for commemorative meetings that included statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Chairs of the five regional groups and the representative of the host country,[7] which was adopted at the second plenary meeting of the Assembly, on 21 September 2012,

*Decides* to adopt the organizational arrangements for the plenary meetings on 10 and 11 December 2012 as outlined in the annex to the present resolution.

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[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[7] A/67/250, para. 45.

## Annex

### Organizational arrangements for the plenary meetings on 10 and 11 December 2012 devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and to the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

1. Four plenary meetings of the General Assembly shall be held on 10 and 11 December, as follows:

(*a*) Two plenary meetings, on 10 December 2012, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., shall be devoted to the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

(*b*) Two plenary meetings, on 11 December 2012, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., shall be devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

2. The list of speakers in the commemoration shall be as follows:

(*a*) Mr. Tommy Koh, President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea;

(*b*) Mr. Christopher Grima, Permanent Representative of Malta, to pay special tribute to the late Ambassador Arvid Pardo of Malta;

(*c*) Chairs of the five regional groups;

(*d*) Representative of the host country;

(*e*) Ms. Isabelle Picco, President of the twenty-second Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

(*f*) Mr. Milan Meetarbhan, President of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority;

(*g*) Mr. Nii Odunton, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority;

(*h*) Judge Peter Tomka, President of the International Court of Justice;

(*i*) Judge Shunji Yanai, President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;

(*j*) Mr. Lawrence Awosika, Chairman of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

3. Statements in the commemoration shall be limited to 10 minutes.

## RESOLUTION 67/6

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.5, sponsored by: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan

### 67/6. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[8]

*Referring* to the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Referring also* to its resolution 59/50 of 2 December 2004, in which it granted the Collective Security Treaty Organization observer status in the General Assembly,

*Referring further* to its resolutions 64/256 of 2 March 2010 and 65/122 of 13 December 2010 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization and to its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security,[9]

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[8] A/67/280-S/2012/614.

[9] Resolution 49/57, annex.

*Referring* to all previous relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, and the relevant statements by its President, including the statement of 13 January 2010,[10] which underline the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant statutes of regional and subregional organizations,

*Noting* the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on Collective Security[11] and the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Collective Security Treaty Organization,

*Noting with satisfaction* that, during its existence, the Collective Security Treaty Organization has transformed into a multifunctional structure with the potential to provide an adequate response to a wide range of threats and challenges within the area of its responsibility,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Welcoming also* the practical steps taken by the Collective Security Treaty Organization to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[12] in particular through the joint ministerial plan of action adopted in Ashgabat on 30 November 2011 for the implementation of the Strategy in Central Asia,

*Acknowledging* the importance of the efforts of the regional anti-drug operation of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, "Kanal", to combat the smuggling of Afghan opiates and the cannabis group of drugs, cocaine and synthetic substances into the territory of the Eurasian region and to counter the activities of organized drug groups and their leaders,

*Welcoming* the continuing role of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in implementing, during the period from 2009 to 2019, the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[13] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session,

*Welcoming also* the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat aimed at promoting more extensive and intensive cooperation in the maintenance of peace, including by encouraging the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to make contributions to the peacekeeping operations of the United Nations,

*Noting* the progress in developing the potential of the collective rapid reaction forces and the formation of peacekeeping forces of the Collective Security Treaty Organization,

*Welcoming* the significance of the statement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the meeting of the Permanent Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, on 22 April 2011, with a view to further strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization,

*Noting* the firm intention of both organizations to further strengthen existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the priority areas of cooperation,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[8] and acknowledges the development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the significant contribution and efforts of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to strengthen the system of regional security and stability, to counter terrorism and transnational organized crime, illegal trafficking in drugs and weapons, and illegal migration and human trafficking, to combat natural and man-made disasters and to strengthen its peacekeeping capacities, which contribute to the attainment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

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[10] S/PRST/2010/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2009–31 July 2010*.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1894, No. 32307.

[12] Resolution 60/288.

[13] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization to enhance coordination and cooperation in the areas of mutual interest and to develop concrete modalities for such cooperation, and encourages them to continue their collaboration, including the exchange of information;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, utilizing the appropriate inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

5. *Invites* the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization to continue their cooperation in the interest of consistent and comprehensive implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;[12]

6. *Invites* increased cooperation and coordination among the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and the Collective Security Treaty Organization and development of their direct contacts in areas of mutual interest;

7. *Encourages* both organizations to continue to examine possible ways to enhance their cooperation in the area of peacekeeping;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization".

## RESOLUTION 67/7

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.6 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine

### 67/7. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 66/111 of 9 December 2011, by which it granted observer status to the Central European Initiative,

*Recalling also* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

*Convinced* that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Appreciating* the efforts of the Central European Initiative to strengthen its relations with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations for the development and implementation of projects and programmes in all priority areas,

1. *Welcomes* the political dialogue encouraged by the Central European Initiative, providing its member States with a flexible and pragmatic platform for regional cooperation on topical issues;

2. *Notes* the activities of the Central European Initiative aimed at strengthening regional cooperation by supporting, elaborating and realizing joint projects in strategic areas in such fields as the environment, transport, energy, with a particular focus on energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, tourism, culture, education and the media, as well as other activities in the cultural, economic and scientific fields;

3. *Welcomes*, in this context, the fruitful cooperation between the Central European Initiative and the European Union, as one of the main co-funders of such projects, and supports the efforts of the Central European Initiative to take concrete steps for the establishment of other mutual beneficial partnerships with the European Union;

4. *Also welcomes* the financing of projects through the Central European Initiative Trust Fund at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, entirely financed by Italy, which provides mainly grant-type assistance for specific components of technical cooperation projects, linked to large operations of the Bank in Central European Initiative member States not part of the European Union, in a number of areas, including agriculture, transport, energy, assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises, municipal infrastructure and services, banking, insurance, institution-building and capacity-building;

5. *Further welcomes* cooperation between the Central European Initiative and international organizations and international financial institutions in co-financing important projects in the region;

6. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between the Central European Initiative and other regional organizations and initiatives;

7. *Notes* the active role of the Central European Initiative in the field of culture and the media by supporting numerous events and initiatives promoting intercultural dialogue and respect for cultural diversity, as well as media pluralism and media transparency and independence;

8. *Also notes* the active support of the Central European Initiative for the mobility of students and researchers through various instruments and programmes;

9. *Acknowledges* the commitment of the Central European Initiative to contributing to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals at the regional and global levels;

10. *Notes* the cooperation between the Central European Initiative and the Economic Commission for Europe in the area of enterprise development, with the United Nations Environment Programme in the area of the environment, with the World Tourism Organization in the area of tourism, with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the area of agriculture, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the areas of education, science and culture and with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the areas of science and technology;

11. *Also notes* the enhanced cooperation between the Central European Initiative and the Economic Commission for Europe, within the framework of the memorandum of understanding signed in 1998, through the more recent participation by the Central European Initiative in activities of the Commission in Geneva;

12. *Welcomes* the cooperation established with the International Telecommunication Union in the field of remote participation in meetings and, more specifically, e-diplomacy;

13. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Central European Initiative in order to continue joint activities for the achievement of common objectives;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative".

## RESOLUTION 67/8

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.7 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United States of America

### 67/8. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 65/236 of 22 December 2010 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

*Having received* the annual report for 2010 and the draft report for 2011 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[14]

1. *Takes note* of the annual report for 2010 and the draft report for 2011 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons submitted on its behalf by its Director General;[14]

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the high-level meeting of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons at United Nations Headquarters on 1 October 2012 on the theme "Fifteen Years of the Chemical Weapons Convention: Celebrating Success — Committing to the Future", to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;[15]

3. *Notes* that the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention will be held in The Hague from 8 to 19 April 2013;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons".

## RESOLUTION 67/9

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.8 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay

### 67/9. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary General,[16]

*Taking note also* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,[17]

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[14] See A/67/209.

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[16] See A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. III.

[17] See A/67/154.

*Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization".

## RESOLUTION 67/10

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.9/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan

### 67/10. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/84 of 9 December 2003, in which it granted the Eurasian Economic Community observer status in the General Assembly, 62/79 of 6 December 2007, 63/15 of 3 November 2008 and 65/125 of 13 December 2010,

*Recalling also* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural and humanitarian nature,

*Recalling further* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Taking note* of the fact that the membership of the Eurasian Economic Community includes countries with economies in transition, and recalling in this regard its resolution 61/210 of 20 December 2006, in which it invited the United Nations system to enhance dialogue with and increase support to the regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and whose efforts include assisting their members to fully integrate into the world economy,

*Recalling* its resolution 64/208 of 21 December 2009, in which it invited the United Nations development system, in particular the funds and programmes, and at the regional level, in accordance with their respective mandates, to improve support, as appropriate, to middle-income countries,

*Noting* that the Treaty on the Establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community[18] reaffirms the commitment of the States members of the Community to the principles of the Charter and also to the generally accepted principles and norms of international law,

*Convinced* that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Eurasian Economic Community contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* that the issues of water and energy resources management, as well as the development, dissemination and transfer of technologies, have particular importance for the sustainable development of the countries members of the Eurasian Economic Community,

*Recognizing also* that the Eurasian Economic Community includes some landlocked countries, and in this regard underlining the key role of regional integration institutions such as the Eurasian Economic Community in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[19]

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[18] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2212, No. 39321.

[19] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

*Recognizing further* the value of regional and subregional cooperation efforts in meeting the challenges of the global economic and financial crisis, and in this regard noting the creation within the Eurasian Economic Community of the Anti-crisis Fund as a useful contribution to the multilateral response to the crisis,

*Noting* the progress achieved in the area of regional economic integration through the establishment of the Customs Union by Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation,

*Noting with appreciation* the activities of the Eurasian Development Bank in support of development and integration of the States members of the Eurasian Economic Community,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 65/125,[20] and expresses satisfaction with regard to the mutually beneficial interaction between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community;

2. *Also takes note* of the activities of the States members of the Eurasian Economic Community in support of United Nations goals through the strengthening of regional cooperation in such areas as trade and economic development, the establishment of a customs union, energy, transport, agriculture and agro-industry, the regulation of migration, banking and finance, communications, education, health care and pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, environmental protection and natural disaster risk reduction;

3. *Recognizes* efforts in strengthening regional economic integration within the Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, including through the single economic space launched on 1 January 2012, and notes the importance of consistency of the regional integration efforts with applicable international trading commitments;

4. *Notes* the beginning of Eurasian Economic Commission operations as a single permanent regulatory body of the Customs Union and the single economic space;

5. *Also notes* the aspiration of the States members of the Customs Union to elaborate the single codified document and, on that basis, to facilitate the establishment of the Eurasian Economic Union;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the progress achieved in cooperation between the Eurasian Economic Community and the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including in the fields of water and energy resources management, the rehabilitation of territories affected by the uranium mining industry, energy efficiency, the development, dissemination and transfer of technologies, trade facilitation, transport, the environment, capacity-building, education, science and innovation, biotechnology and nanotechnology and investment promotion;

7. *Welcomes* the promotion of effective interaction within the framework of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Eurasian Economic Community;

9. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions, to further enhance cooperation and direct contacts with the Eurasian Economic Community for the purpose of undertaking joint implementation of programmes to achieve their goals;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community".

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[20] A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. II.

## RESOLUTIONS 67/11 A and B

### 67/11. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

### Resolution A

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.10, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, State of Palestine

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[21]

*Recalling* article 3 of the Pact of the League of Arab States,[22] which entrusts the Council of the League with the function of determining the means whereby the League will collaborate with the international organizations which may be created in the future to guarantee peace and security and organize economic and social relations,

*Noting* the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, technical and administrative fields, and to build the capacities of persons working in those fields,

*Taking into consideration* the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace"[23] and, in particular, section VII concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[24]

*Convinced* of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources in order to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

*Welcoming* the convening of the high-level meeting of the Security Council on 26 September 2012, which underscored the important principle enshrined in Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, which encourages regional arrangements to make every effort to achieve pacific settlement of local disputes,

*Recognizing* the need for the further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations for the realization of the common goals and objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[21]

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Welcomes* the statement by the President of the Security Council on 26 September 2012 to support the intent of the United Nations and the League of Arab States to strengthen their cooperation across a broad agenda of multilateral concerns;[25]

4. *Requests* the United Nations and the League of Arab States to review existing mechanisms of cooperation and to develop recommendations and proposals for updating and strengthening them;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and other

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[21] A/67/280-S/2012/614.

[22] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 70, No. 241.

[23] A/47/277-S/24111.

[24] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

[25] S/PRST/2012/20.

organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including the general meeting that was held in 2012 and the sectoral meeting in 2012 on the theme of cooperation in humanitarian assistance in the Arab region;

6. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation for the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic and social development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests and objectives of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, administrative and technical fields;

8. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(*b*) To strengthen the capacity of the League of Arab States and of its institutions and specialized organizations to benefit from globalization and information technology and to meet the development challenges of the new millennium;

(*c*) To step up cooperation and coordination with the specialized organizations of the League of Arab States in the organization of seminars and training courses and in the preparation of studies;

(*d*) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes in order to facilitate their implementation;

(*e*) To participate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(*f*) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than January 2014, of the progress made in their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations and, in particular, of the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

9. *Also calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to increase their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the priority sectors of energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational education, technology, environment, information and documentation, trade and finance, water resources, development of the agricultural sector, empowerment of women, transport, communications and information, promotion of the role of private sector and capacity-building;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States in order to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation of, and follow-up action on, the multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

11. *Recommends* that the United Nations and all organizations of the United Nations system make the greatest possible use of Arab institutions and technical expertise in projects undertaken in the Arab region;

12. *Reaffirms* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of the review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should be held once every two years and that joint inter-agency sectoral meetings should also be convened on a

biennial basis to address priority areas of major importance to the development of Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

13. *Also reaffirms* the importance of holding the next general meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in July 2015, and also of holding the general meeting on cooperation between representatives of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

### Resolution B

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.35, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 67/11 A of 19 November 2012,

*Decides* to amend paragraph 13 of that resolution to read as follows:

> "*Also reaffirms* the importance of holding the sectoral meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations during 2013 and also of holding the general meeting on cooperation between representatives of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations during 2014;".

## RESOLUTION 67/12

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.11 and Add.1, sponsored by: Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Uruguay

### 67/12. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 63/12 of 3 November 2008 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System,

*Bearing in mind* the agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System,[26] in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the fields of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[27]

*Noting* that cooperation between the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System and the United Nations has evolved over the past few years and has diversified with regard to areas of cooperation,

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[26] Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 1061).

[27] A/65/382-S/2010/490.

*Taking note* of the Caracas Declaration and the 2012 Caracas Action Plan, adopted at the third Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development, held in Caracas on 2 and 3 December 2011,[28]

*Welcoming* the progress in the treatment of topics relating to the United Nations system, achieved in close contact with the delegations of the Member States participating in the deliberations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the positive assessment of the implementation of the agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System[26] and the potential for strengthening future collaboration between the two organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the holding of the thirty-eighth regular meeting of the Latin American Council of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System from 17 to 19 October 2012, as well as the report on cooperation relations between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System for the period 2008–2012;

3. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, as well as the International Organization for Migration, to continue and intensify their support for and to strengthen their cooperation with the activities of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System and to contribute to joint actions to achieve the internationally agreed development objectives, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[29] in Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/13

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.12 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, France, Georgia, Greece, Israel, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine

### 67/13. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, including resolution 65/128 of 13 December 2010,

*Recalling also* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

*Recalling further* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,[30]

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[28] A/66/647, annex.

[29] Resolution 55/2.

[30] Resolution 49/57, annex.

*Recognizing* that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

*Convinced* that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 65/128,[31]

1. *Takes note* of the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on the occasion of the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 26 June 2012;

2. *Reiterates* the conviction that multilateral economic cooperation contributes to enhancing peace, stability and security to the benefit of the Black Sea region;

3. *Notes* the resolve of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to foster a pragmatic and project-oriented approach in the spheres of common interest for its member States, where improved regional cooperation could create synergies and increase the efficiency of resources used;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption of the economic agenda of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization at the twenty-sixth meeting of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Organization, held in Belgrade on 11 June 2012, which was subsequently endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Organization at its Twentieth Anniversary Summit, in which the member States reiterated their commitment to enhancing the economic mission of the Organization and implementing its economic agenda in accordance with the guidelines set out therein, taking into account the developments that have taken place both inside the Organization itself and in the broader international environment since its establishment;

5. *Values* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in such fields as energy, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, transport, institutional renewal and good governance, trade and economic development, banking and finance, environmental protection, sustainable development and entrepreneurship, communications, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceutics, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among customs authorities and combating organized crime and trafficking in drugs, weapons and radioactive material, acts of terrorism and illegal migration and in other related spheres;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to elaborate and realize concrete joint regional projects, particularly in the field of transport, which will contribute to the development of Euro-Asian transport links, and recalls, within this framework, the memorandum of understanding for the coordinated development of the Black Sea Ring Highway and the memorandum of understanding on the development of Motorways of the Sea in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization region, which entered into force in late 2008;

7. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and international financial institutions in co-financing feasibility and pre-feasibility studies for projects in the wider Black Sea area, where economically prudent and within their respective mandates;

8. *Notes* the contributions of the bodies related to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies, to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to promoting fruitful cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies, in particular to developing practical and results-oriented projects, in areas of common interest, as reiterated in the Declaration and the new economic agenda endorsed at the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization;

10. *Also welcomes* the increased cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations

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[31] See A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. II.

Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as the working contacts of the Organization with the World Health Organization and the World Bank aimed at promoting sustainable development in the Black Sea region;

11. *Acknowledges* the commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to contributing to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals at the national, regional and global levels;

12. *Welcomes* the financing of projects by the Project Development Fund of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as by the Hellenic Development Fund, which was established within the Organization to support projects for the sustainable development of the Black Sea region, in turn contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the wider Black Sea area;

13. *Notes* the willingness of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to continue to implement sustainable development strategies based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activities and environmental protection, and in this context also notes the holding of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;

14. *Welcomes* the continuation of implementation of the Black Sea Trade and Investment Promotion Programme, the first partnership project between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, launched on 1 December 2006, which led to the signing of a cooperation agreement between the two organizations on 28 June 2007 in Istanbul;

15. *Notes* the active engagement of the Istanbul International Centre for Private Sector in Development at the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, and encourages the Centre to contribute to the implementation of the new economic agenda;

16. *Also notes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to take measures to rehabilitate, protect and preserve the environment in the Black Sea region, and in this regard welcomes its cooperation with the World Wide Fund for Nature;

17. *Further notes* the increased cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and, within this framework, welcomes the launching on 1 September 2007 of their joint project to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in the Black Sea region;

18. *Welcomes* the multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, especially in the area of transport, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed by the two organizations on 2 July 2001;

19. *Encourages* the full implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme dated 20 February 2002 and the Relationship Agreement between the Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization dated 8 September 1997;

20. *Notes* the establishment of cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the International Centre for Hydrogen Energy Technologies of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, with emphasis placed on energy and the environment;

21. *Also notes* that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization became a member of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in 2009 in order to contribute to the fulfilment of the objectives of the Alliance by promoting projects aimed at building bridges between diverse cultures and communities and fostering cross-cultural exchange and cooperation, and welcomes the intention of the secretariats of the two organizations to sign a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the near future;

22. *Further notes* the intensified cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the European Union, and supports the efforts of the Organization to take concrete steps for the establishment of mutually beneficial partnerships;

23. *Notes* the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives;

24. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two organizations;

25. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue programmes with the Organization and its associated institutions for the achievement of their objectives;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

## RESOLUTION 67/14

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.13 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan

### 67/14. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Recalling also* its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization, in which it invited various specialized agencies as well as other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant financial institutions to join in the efforts towards realizing the goals and objectives of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Appreciating* the efforts made by the Economic Cooperation Organization to strengthen its relations with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations in creating conditions conducive to socioeconomic progress in the region, including through the development and implementation of joint projects and programmes in areas of common interest,

*Noting* the efforts made by the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations in extending technical and financial assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the development and implementation of programmes and projects pertaining to socioeconomic progress in the region, and encouraging them to continue their support,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 65/129 of 13 December 2010,[32] and acknowledges the growing cooperation between the two organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the Baku Declaration, issued at the twelfth Economic Cooperation Organization summit meeting of Heads of State and/or Government of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held on 16 October 2012 in Baku;[33]

3. *Notes* the initiative of the Economic Cooperation Organization on e-trade and the regional single window to introduce the cross-border exchange of e-certificates of origin and other relevant documents among the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in implementing its programme on paperless trade;

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[32] See A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. II.

[33] A/67/581, annex.

4. *Also notes* the progress on the proposed joint project of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States on the promotion of transit transport cooperation among landlocked and transit countries in the region, and invites the Office to consider supporting the proposed study project of the two bodies on the possibility of providing concessional services for landlocked countries in selected ports of transit countries of the region, within existing resources;

5. *Appreciates* the existing cooperation between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of trade capacity-building of member States, expresses satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the two phases of their joint project in this field, and invites the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other relevant United Nations agencies to give consideration to supporting the implementation of the third phase of the project;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre to develop strategies for States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in their trade liberalization processes that could lead to the regional and global integration of their economies;

7. *Notes* the project of the Economic Cooperation Organization to expand intraregional trade by organizing business forums, meetings of buyers and sellers, trade promotional activities, specialized trade fairs, exchanges of delegations of buyers and sellers, symposiums on leading export sectors and trade research, and invites relevant United Nations agencies and institutions to consider extending support to these initiatives;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the approval of the railway network development plan of the Economic Cooperation Organization at the eleventh meeting of Heads of railway authorities of the member States, held in Ankara in June 2012, and invites all the relevant international financial and specialized institutions to consider participating in the implementation of the plan, taking into account the key role played by the railway network of the Economic Cooperation Organization as a land bridge between Asia and Europe;

9. *Notes* the recommendations of the joint workshop of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe on a unified railway law, held in Ankara in June 2012, regarding the formulation of a unified railway law on international freight and passenger traffic by rail with a view to the facilitation of transport by rail in the region, and invites the relevant United Nations agencies to consider implementing the recommendations;

10. *Encourages* all members of the Economic Cooperation Organization that have not done so to accede to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail[34] and the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention);[35]

11. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop two road transport corridors, between Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey, and between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and invites the relevant international and regional organizations, notably the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Islamic Development Bank and the Economic Commission for Europe, to consider participating in the fields of study, demonstration caravans and other activities envisaged in the project of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop these corridors, within their respective mandates;

12. *Notes* the current efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to operationalize the Interim Motor Vehicle Third-Party Liability Insurance Scheme ("White Card Scheme"), and invites the Economic Commission for Europe and the Council of Bureaux to consider extending their support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in its implementation of the scheme, within their respective mandates;

13. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Europe to consider cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in promoting the accession of its member States to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road;[36]

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[34] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1397, No. 23353.

[35] Ibid., vol. 1079, No. 16510.

[36] Ibid., vol. 619, No. 8940.

14. *Notes* the ongoing efforts to set up the Economic Cooperation Organization unified visa sticker for drivers and other persons involved in transit transport, and invites the United Nations and relevant international and regional institutions, within their respective mandates, to consider cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in developing this unified visa system with the aim of facilitating transit transport in the region;

15. *Also notes* the recent efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to initiate feasibility studies for enhancing the connectivity of the ports of its member States with those of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as a way to strengthen the access of the landlocked States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization to international markets;

16. *Takes note* of the plan of action for energy/petroleum cooperation for the period 2011–2015, particularly in the development and implementation of regional programmes on renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency, and invites the relevant United Nations bodies to consider collaborating with the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization in monitoring the implementation of the plan of action, within their existing mandates;

17. *Notes* the adoption of the framework plan of action on environmental cooperation and global warming in the Economic Cooperation Organization region for the period 2011–2015, and invites the Economic Cooperation Organization to cooperate with specialized agencies, including the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, as appropriate;

18. *Invites* the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to consider cooperation with the Regional Coordination Centre of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the implementation of the Economic Cooperation Organization regional programme for food security in Ankara;

19. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization to prepare a technical assistance project proposal on the implementation of the regional programmes for food security of the Economic Cooperation Organization under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme administered by the World Bank, and invites the Steering Committee of the Programme to consider extending technical and financial support for the implementation of the regional programmes;

20. *Invites* the relevant United Nations agencies to consider extending support to the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization Seed Association and its projects on seed sector development in the region;

21. *Invites* cooperation between the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank and other institutions and organizations, to consider providing financial and technical support for the regional projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization related to drought management and meteorology and to support the programmes of its Regional Centre for Risk Management of Natural Disasters, in Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran, in the field of agriculture, and of its Meteorological Calibration Centre, in Ankara;

22. *Takes note* of the resolution adopted in 2010 by the Economic Cooperation Organization to establish the Veterinary Commission in Tehran and the Centre for the Efficient Utilization of Water for Agriculture in Islamabad, and invites the relevant United Nations agencies to consider extending support to the establishment process and the activities of the bodies;

23. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the progress made by the Economic Cooperation Organization towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals related to child mortality, maternal mortality and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, and encourages the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization, to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization, as appropriate;

24. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to enhance cooperation in the field of health in the region in collaboration with international organizations and specialized agencies, especially the World Health Organization, the International Society of Blood Transfusion, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Population Fund, and encourages their continued support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of health;

25. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies and international organizations, especially the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Development Programme, to consider expanding cooperation in the area of natural disaster risk management with the Economic Cooperation Organization and to consider extending their technical and financial support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of natural disaster risk management in the region;

26. *Welcomes* the signing of the technical cooperation project agreement between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization on support for the implementation and development of the CountrySTAT framework in the Economic Cooperation Organization countries for the development of agriculture statistics in the region, the first phase of which will be implemented in Afghanistan as a pilot country;

27. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Statistics Division in conducting training courses and workshops for the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the region, and invites the Statistics Division to consider extending its technical and financial support for the design and implementation of a statistical capacity-building programme for the development of statistics in the region;

28. *Also appreciates* the efforts of the Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit of the Economic Cooperation Organization to compile and disseminate drug-related data and organize training programmes aimed at enhancing the technical and professional expertise of the officials working in the relevant anti-narcotics forces and agencies of its member States, within the framework of a European Union-funded project in the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and encourages the donor agencies, such as the European Commission and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to consider providing technical and financial assistance to the Unit in its efforts against drug-related and other related crimes;

29. *Further appreciates* the contributions made by the Economic Cooperation Organization towards reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, commends its active participation in and constructive contributions to various regional and international initiatives on Afghanistan, and especially appreciates its support for the high-level Core Group of Regional Forum Secretaries-General established at the meeting of the regional bodies on 19 July 2010, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan;[37]

30. *Notes* the interest of the Cultural Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization in strengthening cooperation with the relevant United Nations institutions, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to consider extending support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in developing and implementing projects that can promote the rich cultural heritage of the region;

31. *Appreciates* the operationalization of the Science Foundation of the Economic Cooperation Organization in Islamabad and its Educational Institute in Ankara as specialized arms of the organization to foster regional cooperation among its member States in the fields of science and education, respectively, and encourages the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to work closely, within the scope of their mandate and within existing resources, with these two newly established bodies in preparing and implementing appropriate projects for the promotion of science and education in the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

32. *Also appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to establish or activate contact groups of Ambassadors of its member States within the United Nations and with other regional and international organizations to, inter alia, mobilize technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the regional projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization and harmonize their positions on issues of common interest, and invites the relevant international and regional organizations to extend assistance to these contact groups, within the scope of their mandate and within existing resources;

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[37] A/66/601-S/2011/767, annex.

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

## RESOLUTION 67/15

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 19 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.15, sponsored by: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

### 67/15. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* that one of the objectives of the United Nations is to achieve cooperation in maintaining international peace and security and solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

*Recalling also* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities on the basis of regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

*Recalling further* its resolution 59/48 of 2 December 2004, by which it granted observer status to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/183 of 18 December 2009 and 65/124 of 13 December 2010 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

*Recalling also* the Joint Declaration on Cooperation between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, dated 5 April 2010,

*Noting* that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has become an essential regional organization for addressing security in the region in all its dimensions,

*Recognizing* the efforts of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to build the region of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization into a region of lasting peace, friendship, prosperity and harmony,

*Noting* the aspiration of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to promote stability and security based on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for cultural diversity and pursuit of common development and to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and taking note in this regard of the Declaration of the Heads of State of the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization on building a region of lasting peace and common prosperity, signed in Beijing on 7 June 2012,[38]

*Welcoming* the efforts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to support the building of a world free of nuclear weapons, including in Central Asia, in strict compliance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[39]

*Recognizing* the efforts of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to promote counter-terrorism cooperation, including through the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure, and welcoming in this regard the protocols on cooperation between the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, signed on 22 July 2012, and between the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure and the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, signed on 27 September 2012,

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[38] A/67/111, annex.

[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

*Noting* the revised version of the Regulations on Political and Diplomatic Measures and Mechanism of Response to Events Jeopardizing Regional Peace, Security and Stability of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and the programme of cooperation in combating terrorism, separatism and extremism for 2013–2015, which broadened the basis for security cooperation among the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

*Recognizing* the importance of implementation of the 2011–2016 Anti-Drug Strategy and Action Plan of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization as an effective mechanism for regional cooperation in combating drugs,

*Welcoming* the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in June 2011 with a view to effectively addressing, in cooperation with relevant international and regional actors, the production of and trade and trafficking in drugs originating in Afghanistan,

*Welcoming also* the decision of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to grant Afghanistan observer status in the organization and the determination of the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to continue to support the Afghan people in the reconstruction of Afghanistan,

*Welcoming further* the decision of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to grant Turkey the status of dialogue partner,

*Noting* the efforts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to address international information security, taking note of the initiatives of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in this regard, and recognizing the need for further discussions in relevant forums,

*Recognizing* the efforts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to promote cooperation with other regional organizations, including the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Eurasian Economic Community and the Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Welcoming* the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

*Taking into consideration* the fact that countries with economies in transition are among the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and in this regard recalling its resolution 61/210 of 20 December 2006, in which it proposed that the United Nations system enhance dialogue with regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and increase support provided to them,

*Convinced* that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization helps to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

1. *Acknowledges* the important role of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in securing peace and sustainable development, advancing regional cooperation, strengthening good-neighbourliness and mutual trust, and takes note of the activities of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening peace, security and stability in the region, countering terrorism, separatism and extremism, drug trafficking and other types of criminal activity of a transnational character and promoting regional cooperation in various areas such as trade and economic development, energy, transportation, agriculture and agro-industry, the regulation of migration, banking and finances, information and telecommunications, science and new technology, customs, education, public health, environmental protection and reducing the danger of natural disasters, as well as in other related areas;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and proposes that the Secretary-General, for this purpose, continue to hold regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization through the existing inter-agency forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Proposes* that the specialized agencies, organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system cooperate with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization with a view to jointly implementing programmes to achieve their goals, and in this regard recommends that the heads of such entities continue consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization".

## RESOLUTION 67/16

Adopted at the 41st plenary meeting, on 27 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.16 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

### 67/16. The situation in Afghanistan

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/13 of 21 November 2011 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

*Recalling also* all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 2041 (2012) of 22 March 2012 and 2069 (2012) of 9 October 2012,

*Reaffirming its strong commitment* to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

*Recognizing once again* the interconnected nature of the challenges in Afghanistan, reaffirming that sustainable progress on security, governance, human rights, the rule of law and development, as well as on the cross-cutting theme of counter-narcotics, is mutually reinforcing, and welcoming the continuing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to address these challenges in a coherent manner,

*Recalling* the long-term commitment of the international community to Afghanistan with the aim of strengthening national ownership and leadership consistent with the Kabul process, and taking into account the evolving nature of the presence of the international community,

*Welcoming* the conclusions of the International Afghanistan Conference on Afghanistan and the International Community: From Transition to the Transformation Decade, held in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2011,[40] in which it was declared that the process of transition, to be completed by the end of 2014, should be followed by a transformation decade (2015–2024) in which Afghanistan consolidates its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people,

*Welcoming also* the Tokyo Declaration: Partnership for Self-Reliance in Afghanistan – From Transition to Transformation adopted at the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan, held on 8 July 2012,[41] including the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework,[42] which reaffirms the partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community based on their mutual commitments,

*Welcoming and supporting* the outcome of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Heart of Asia, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 2 November 2011, and the follow-up Heart of Asia Ministerial Conference, held in

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[40] A/66/597-S/2011/762, annex.

[41] A/66/867-S/2012/532, annex I.

[42] Ibid., annex II.

Kabul on 14 June 2012, which, respectively, launched and furthered the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan[43] whereby Afghanistan and its regional partners, with the support of the international community, affirmed their commitment to strengthen regional security and cooperation for a secure and stable Afghanistan, including through enhanced regional dialogue and confidence-building measures, looking forward to future meetings thereof, in particular the next ministerial meeting, to be held in Astana in April 2013, welcoming the recent efforts undertaken to further develop confidence-building measures in the areas of disaster management, counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics, chambers of commerce, commercial opportunities, regional infrastructure and education, and noting that the Istanbul Process is intended to complement and cooperate with, and not substitute for, existing efforts of regional organizations, particularly where they relate to Afghanistan,

*Recognizing* the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners as well as regional organizations, including the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, to the stabilization of Afghanistan, stressing the crucial importance of advancing regional cooperation as an effective means of promoting security, governance and development in Afghanistan, and noting in this regard the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan initiative, in particular the Fifth Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan, held in Dushanbe on 26 and 27 March 2012, and the Delhi Investment Summit on Afghanistan, held in New Delhi on 28 June 2012, and its recommendations for promoting foreign investment and private sector development and partnerships of Afghanistan, as well as those initiatives being implemented within the framework of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other relevant initiatives aimed at increasing regional economic cooperation with Afghanistan, such as enhanced trade and infrastructural connectivity along historical trade routes, energy supply, transport and integrated border management,

*Underlining* the significance of the agreement reached between the Government of Afghanistan and countries contributing to the International Security Assistance Force at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization summit, held in Lisbon on 19 and 20 November 2010, to gradually transfer full security responsibility in Afghanistan to the Government country-wide by the end of 2014, welcoming the ongoing implementation of the first three tranches of transition and looking forward to its phased completion in the remaining parts of the country and to the mid-2013 milestone, when all areas will have entered the transition process and Afghan forces will be in the lead for security nationwide, underlining also the continuing role of the Assistance Force in support of the Government and in promoting a responsible transition and the importance of the enhancement of the operational capabilities of the Afghan National Security Forces, and stressing the long-term commitment, beyond 2014, of the international community to support the further development, including training, and professionalization of the Afghan National Security Forces and their capacity to counter continued threats to Afghanistan's security, with a view to establishing lasting peace, security and stability,

*Welcoming* the joint Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan, which stresses the long-term commitment of countries contributing to the Assistance Force, beyond 2014, to lasting peace, security and stability in Afghanistan, noting the responsibility of the Government of Afghanistan to sustain sufficient and capable Afghan National Security Forces supported by the international community, welcoming in this context the decision of the international community, taken at the Bonn Conference, to support the training, equipping, financing and capability development of the Afghan National Security Forces beyond the end of the transition period, welcoming, as reaffirmed in the Chicago Summit Declaration, the financial sustainment of the Afghan National Security Forces with a clear view to the assumption, no later than 2024, of full financial responsibility for its own security forces by the Government, and welcoming also the decision of the Government and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to work towards continuing to train, advise and assist the Afghan National Security Forces after 2014,

*Welcoming also* the process by which Afghanistan and its regional and international partners are entering into long-term strategic partnership and other agreements, aimed at achieving a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan,

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[43] A/66/601-S/2011/767, annex.

*Reiterating* the urgent need to tackle the challenges in Afghanistan, in particular the ongoing violent criminal and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, and the development of Government of Afghanistan institutions, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law and democratic processes, the fight against corruption, the acceleration of justice sector reform, the promotion of national reconciliation, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council in resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011) of 17 June 2011 and other relevant resolutions, an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and voluntary return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in an orderly and dignified manner, the promotion and protection of human rights and the advancement of economic and social development,

*Deeply concerned* about the continued high level of violence in Afghanistan, condemning in the strongest terms all violent attacks, and recognizing in that regard the continuously alarming threats posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, as well as the challenges related to the efforts to address such threats,

*Expressing its serious concern* about the high number of civilian casualties, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians,

*Recognizing* the considerable further progress made by the Assistance Force, authorized by the Security Council, and other international forces in ensuring the protection of the civilian population and in minimizing civilian casualties, and calling upon them to continue to make enhanced efforts in this regard, notably through the continuous review of tactics and procedures and the conduct of after-action reviews and investigations in cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan in cases where civilian casualties have occurred and when the Government finds these joint investigations appropriate,

*Noting* the importance of the national Government being inclusive and representative of the ethnic diversity of the country and ensuring also the full and equal participation of women,

1. *Emphasizes* the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, expresses its appreciation and strong support for all efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Afghanistan in this regard, expresses its appreciation also for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in accordance with Security Council resolution 2041 (2012), stresses the leading and coordinating role of the Assistance Mission in seeking to further improve the coherence and coordination of international civilian efforts, guided by the principle of reinforcing Afghan ownership and leadership, and in this regard expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the comprehensive review of the activities of the Assistance Mission undertaken in accordance with the request contained in paragraph 43 of Council resolution 1974 (2011) of 22 March 2011, and takes due note of the findings contained in the report of the Secretary-General on Afghanistan of 5 March 2012;[44]

2. *Welcomes* the reports of the Secretary-General[45] and the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Pledges its continued support* to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild a stable, secure, economically self-sufficient State, free of terrorism and narcotics, and strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy as a responsible member of the international community;

4. *Appreciates* the renewed commitments by the Government of Afghanistan to the Afghan people and the renewed commitments by the international community to Afghanistan expressed in the Tokyo Declaration: Partnership for Self-Reliance in Afghanistan – From Transition to Transformation[41] and the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework,[42] building on the conclusions of the International Afghanistan Conference on Afghanistan and the International Community: From Transition to the Transformation Decade, held in Bonn,[40] in which it was declared that the process of transition, to be completed by the end of 2014, should be followed by a transformation decade (2015–2024) in which Afghanistan consolidates its sovereignty through strengthening a fully

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[44] A/66/728-S/2012/133.

[45] A/66/604-S/2011/722, A/66/728-S/2012/133, A/66/855-S/2012/462 and A/67/354-S/2012/703.

functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, reiterates in this regard its appreciation for the Afghanistan National Development Strategy and the national priority programmes with their focus on economic growth, revenue generation, job creation, governance and human development contained therein, and underlines the need for the continued and sequenced implementation of the national priority programmes;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ideas outlined by the Government of Afghanistan in its strategy document entitled "Towards self-reliance: strategic vision for the transformation decade";[46]

6. *Welcomes* further efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and acknowledges to that effect the important work being done through the interministerial coordination mechanism and its role in prioritizing and implementing the National Development Strategy and the national priority programmes;

7. *Encourages* all partners to support constructively the Kabul process, building upon a deep and broad international partnership towards further increased Afghan responsibility and ownership in security, governance and development, aiming at a secure, prosperous and democratic Afghanistan, focusing on strengthening the constitutional checks and balances that guarantee citizens' rights and obligations and implementing structural reform to enable an accountable and effective Government to deliver concrete progress to its people;

8. *Supports* the continuing and growing ownership of reconstruction and development efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, and emphasizes the crucial need to achieve ownership and accountability in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the subnational level, in order to use aid more effectively;

### Security and transition

9. *Reiterates once again its serious concern* about the security situation in Afghanistan, stresses the need to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan caused by the ongoing violent and terrorist activity by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, and reiterates in this regard its call for the full implementation of measures and the application of procedures introduced in relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999), 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011);

10. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all acts of violence and intimidation and attacks, including improvised explosive device attacks, suicide attacks, assassinations, including of public figures, abductions, the indiscriminate targeting of civilians, attacks against humanitarian workers and the targeting of Afghan and international forces, and their deleterious effect on the stabilization and development efforts in Afghanistan, and also condemns the use, by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, of civilians as human shields;

11. *Stresses* the need for the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to continue to work closely together in countering these acts, which are threatening peace and stability in Afghanistan and the democratic process, the achievements and continued implementation of the Afghanistan development process as well as humanitarian aid measures, and calls upon all Member States to deny those groups any form of sanctuary or financial, material and political support;

12. *Expresses deep regret* at the resulting loss of life and physical harm inflicted upon Afghan civilians and civilians of other nationalities, including the personnel of Afghan and international agencies and all other humanitarian workers and the diplomatic corps, the Assistance Mission, as well as upon the personnel of the Afghan National Security Forces, the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, and pays homage to all those who have lost their lives;

13. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of sufficient security, calls upon the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan, and commends the Afghan National Security Forces and their international partners for their efforts in this regard;

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See S/2012/533.

14. *Notes* that the responsibility for providing security and law and order throughout the country resides with the Government of Afghanistan, supported by the international community, and underlines the importance of further strengthening the operational capabilities of Afghan security forces, in all provinces of Afghanistan, consistent with the goal of transition;

15. *Expresses its support* for the objective of the Government of Afghanistan, as endorsed by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board, to ensure that the Afghan National Security Forces have the necessary strength and operational capability to take over the full security responsibility from the Assistance Force in all provinces by the end of 2014, calls upon the international community to provide the support necessary to increase security, as well as to provide continued support by training, equipping and contributing to the financing of the Afghan National Security Forces to take on the task of securing their country, and underscores the importance of the joint Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan and other relevant agreements with regional and international partners in this regard;

16. *Welcomes* the progress of the security transition process, which began in July 2011, as agreed upon by the Government of Afghanistan and the countries taking part in the Assistance Force, commends the ongoing implementation of the first three tranches of transition, after which time 75 per cent of the population of Afghanistan will be living in areas where the Afghan National Security Forces have taken over lead security responsibility, looks forward to the phased completion of the process in the remaining parts of the country and the mid-2013 milestone, when all areas will have entered the transition process and the Afghan forces will be in the lead for security nationwide, also welcomes the commitment of Afghanistan's international partners to support the Government in creating the conditions necessary to allow for the completion of transition and to continue to support the transition process to enable it to advance to the point at which the Afghan National Security Forces are fully capable of meeting the security needs of the country, including public order, law enforcement, the security of Afghanistan's borders and preservation of the constitutional rights of Afghan citizens, and calls upon Member States to continue to support the transition process with the necessary continued financial and technical support;

17. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the presence of the Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, expresses its appreciation for the support they have provided to the Afghan National Army, as well as for the assistance provided to the Afghan National Police by international partners, in particular by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization through its training mission in Afghanistan, the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan and the European Gendarmerie Force, as well as other bilateral training programmes, and, in the light of the transition process, encourages further coordination where appropriate;

18. *Further welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan, with a view to ensuring stability and providing conditions for the effective rule of law, to continue the implementation of the Afghan National Police Strategy and the National Police Plan underpinning it, together with the work of the Afghan Ministry of the Interior and the International Police Coordination Board to create a ten-year blueprint plan for Afghan policing, focusing, inter alia, on community-based policing (*Police-e Mardumi*) to increase police accountability and responsiveness, strengthening crime detection and prevention, safeguarding human rights and combating violence against women and children to build a strong, professional police force evolving towards a sustainable, credible and accountable civilian law enforcement force that will be capable of providing policing services to the Afghan population as part of the broader rule of law system, with a focus on the ongoing institutional and administrative reforms of the Ministry of the Interior, including the implementation of its anti-corruption action plan, and leadership development, as well as to progressively enhance the quality of the Afghan National Police, with the necessary continued financial and technical support of the international community;

19. *Calls upon* Member States to continue, and expresses its appreciation to Member States for, contributing personnel, equipment and other resources to the Assistance Force and their adequate support to the evolution of the provincial reconstruction teams, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and the Assistance Mission;

20. *Notes*, in the context of the comprehensive approach and the ongoing transition process, the continued importance of the synergies in the objectives of the Assistance Mission and the Assistance Force, and emphasizes, in particular, the continued need to maintain, strengthen and review civil-military relations among international actors, as appropriate, at all levels in order to ensure complementarity of action based on the different mandates and comparative advantages of the humanitarian, development, law enforcement and military actors present in Afghanistan;

21. *Urges* the Afghan authorities, with the support of the international community, to take all possible steps to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations, development and humanitarian personnel and their full, safe and unhindered access to all affected populations, and to protect the property of the United Nations and of development or humanitarian organizations, and notes the efforts made in regulating private security contractors operating in Afghanistan;

22. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Afghan authorities, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/123 of 15 December 2005 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, to bring to justice the perpetrators of attacks, and calls upon the Afghan authorities to continue its efforts in this regard;

23. *Expresses its appreciation* for the progress achieved by the Government of Afghanistan in the Afghan Peace and Reintegration Programme throughout the country and under Afghan ownership, while ensuring coordination and coherence with other relevant efforts, welcomes the continued commitment of the Government to work actively at the national, provincial and local levels to advance this commitment, stresses the importance of all efforts to create sufficient legal income-earning opportunities, and calls for continued international support for these efforts;

24. *Remains deeply concerned* about the persisting problem of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, which constitute a great danger to the population and a major obstacle to the resumption of economic activities and to recovery and reconstruction efforts;

25. *Welcomes* the progress achieved through the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan, supports the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[47] to cooperate fully with the Mine Action Programme coordinated by the United Nations and to eliminate all known or new stocks of anti-personnel landmines, and acknowledges the need for continued assistance from the international community in this regard;

26. *Also welcomes* the progress made by the Government of Afghanistan in achieving its mine action obligations, including assistance to victims, the clearance of areas contaminated with landmines and cluster munitions remnants, the destruction of stockpiles and advocacy and risk-reduction measures, and underscores the importance of continued progress in this regard;

### Peace, reconciliation and reintegration

27. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to advance peace and reconciliation, including by the High Peace Council, and the implementation of the Afghan Peace and Reintegration Programme to promote an inclusive, Afghan-led dialogue on reconciliation and political participation, as set forth in the 20 July 2010 Kabul Conference communiqué on dialogue for all who renounce violence, have no links to international terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaida, respect the Constitution, including its human rights provisions, notably the rights of women, and are willing to join in building a peaceful Afghanistan, and as further elaborated in the principles and outcomes of the Bonn Conference conclusions, supported by the Government and the international community, with full respect for the implementation of measures and the application of the procedures introduced by the Security Council in resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1988 (2011) as well as other relevant resolutions of the Council, calling upon all relevant States to remain engaged in the peace process and recognizing the impact terrorist attacks have on the Afghan people and risk having on future prospects for a peace settlement;

28. *Reiterates its firm commitment* to support the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to advance the peace and reconciliation process, in line with the Kabul Conference communiqué and the Bonn Conference conclusions, and within the framework of the Afghan Constitution and the application of the procedures introduced by the Security Council in resolution 1988 (2011) as well as other relevant resolutions of the Council;

29. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Chair of the High Peace Council in April 2012 as an important step in the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process;

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[47] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

30. *Calls upon* all relevant States and international organizations to remain engaged in the Afghan-led peace process, and recognizes the impact terrorist attacks have on the Afghan people and risk having on future prospects for a peace settlement;

31. *Underlines* the fact that reconciliation and reintegration efforts should enjoy the support and participation of all Afghans, including civil society, minorities and women's groups, as reinforced most recently in the Bonn Conference conclusions and the Tokyo Declaration;

32. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan to ensure that the Afghan Peace and Reintegration Programme is implemented in an inclusive manner, regardless of gender or social status and consistent with the Afghan Constitution and the international legal obligations of Afghanistan, while upholding the human rights of all Afghans and countering impunity;

33. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Peace and Reintegration Trust Fund, recalls the respective commitments made at the London and Kabul Conferences, and encourages the international community to assist the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard, including through continued support and contributions to the Trust Fund;

34. *Recognizes* the increased number of reintegrees who have joined the Afghan Peace and Reintegration Programme, encourages further efforts to address remaining operational challenges, including through an appropriate vetting mechanism and by ensuring that this work is linked to wider efforts to address conflict and grievance resolution at the local level, and also encourages the international community to support this Afghan-led effort;

### Governance, rule of law and human rights

35. *Emphasizes* that good governance, the rule of law and human rights form the foundation for the achievement of a stable and prosperous Afghanistan, and notes the importance of building the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to promote and protect human rights, the rule of law and good governance in an accountable and effective manner;

### A. Democracy

36. *Recognizes* the importance of holding free, fair, transparent, credible, secure and inclusive elections as crucial steps towards consolidating democracy for all Afghans, stresses the responsibility of the Afghan authorities in this regard, also stresses the need for the timely and orderly preparation of elections, recognizes the efforts made in this regard by the Government of Afghanistan and calls upon the Government to continue its preparations, welcomes the efforts made by the Government in this regard, including the issuance of the presidential decree of 26 July 2012, and also welcomes the subsequent announcement by the Independent Electoral Commission of the date for the upcoming presidential and provincial elections, calls upon the international community to continue to provide financial and technical assistance, stresses the leading role of the Assistance Mission in coordinating these efforts, and calls upon the international community to support the Government and the relevant Afghan institutions;

37. *Recalls* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan reiterated most recently at the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan, to strengthen and improve Afghanistan's electoral process, including through long-term electoral reform, in order to ensure that future elections will be transparent, credible, inclusive and democratic, and reaffirms that Afghanistan's peaceful future lies in strengthened and transparent democratic institutions, respect for the separation of powers, reinforced constitutional checks and balances and the guarantee and enforcement of citizens' rights and obligations;

### B. Justice

38. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan on justice sector reform and the commitment to improve access to the delivery of justice throughout Afghanistan made by the Government at the Kabul Conference, urges the Government to complete the National Priority Programme on Law and Justice for All in a timely manner, in coordination with the relevant organizations and Government departments, and urges the international community to continue to support the efforts of the Government in these areas in a coordinated manner;

39. *Acknowledges* the progress made by the Government of Afghanistan and the international community in devoting adequate resources to the reconstruction and reform of the prison sector in order to improve respect for the rule of law and human rights therein, while reducing physical and mental health risks to inmates;

40. *Welcomes and encourages* further efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the Assistance Mission, the international community and other partners, including the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, to protect and promote the human rights of all detainees and prevent violations thereof in all Afghan prisons and detention facilities, consistent with the Afghan Constitution, Afghan laws and international obligations, welcomes the cooperation of the Government, as well as the efforts of the international community to provide support in this regard, takes note of the recommendations contained in the report of the Assistance Mission of 10 October 2011, notes the progress made in this regard, and reiterates the importance of respecting the rule of law and established legal processes and procedures;

41. *Welcomes* the commitment by the Government of Afghanistan to provide unimpeded access for relevant organizations to all prisons in Afghanistan, emphasizes the importance of ensuring access for relevant organizations, and calls for full respect for relevant international law, including humanitarian law and human rights law, where applicable, including with regard to minors, if detained;

### C. Public administration

42. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to effectively reform the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law and to ensure good governance and accountability, in accordance with the Kabul process and the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework, at both the national and subnational levels, with the support of the international community, welcomes the efforts of the Government and commitments made, most recently at the Tokyo Conference, in this regard stresses the importance of transparent appointment and promotion procedures for civil servants, and continues to encourage the Government to make active use of the Senior Appointments Panel;

43. *Encourages* the international community, including all donor nations as well as international institutions and organizations, governmental and non-governmental, to assist the Government of Afghanistan in making capacity-building and human resources development a cross-cutting priority and to align, in a coordinated manner, with efforts by the Government, including the work of the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission, to build administrative capacity at the national and subnational levels;

44. *Reiterates* the importance of institution-building in complementing and contributing to the development of an economy characterized by sound macroeconomic policies, the development of a financial sector that provides services, inter alia, to microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and households, transparent business regulations and accountability, and emphasizes the connection between generating economic growth, including through infrastructural projects, and the creation of job opportunities in Afghanistan;

45. *Recalls* the ratification by Afghanistan of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[48] reiterates its appreciation for the anti-corruption commitments made by the Government of Afghanistan at the Tokyo Conference, calls for decisive action by the Government to fulfil those commitments in order to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government, welcomes the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard, including the issuance of the presidential decree in July 2012, and also welcomes continued international support for Afghanistan's governance objectives, while noting with deep concern the effects of corruption with regard to security, good governance, the combating of the narcotics industry and economic development;

46. *Welcomes* the principles of effective partnership set out in the communiqué of the Kabul Conference and the Tokyo Declaration, and in this context calls for the full implementation of the commitments to align and channel international resources through the budget of the Government of Afghanistan and in alignment with Afghan priorities as set out in the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework;

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[48] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

47. *Also welcomes* the Subnational Governance Policy, underscores the importance of more visible, accountable and capable subnational institutions and actors in reducing the political space for insurgents, emphasizes the importance of the Kabul process being accompanied by the implementation of national programmes at the subnational level, encourages the capacity-building and empowerment of local institutions in a phased and fiscally sustainable manner, and calls for the predictable and regular allocation of more resources to provincial authorities, including continued vital support from the Assistance Mission and the international community;

48. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to address, with the assistance of the international community, the question of claims for land property through a comprehensive land titling programme, including formal registration of all property and improved security of property rights, including for women, and welcomes the steps already taken by the Government in this regard;

## D. Human rights

49. *Recalls* the constitutional guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans as a significant political achievement, calls for full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, and stresses the need to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, in accordance with obligations under applicable international law, in particular those regarding the full enjoyment by women and children of their human rights;

50. *Acknowledges and encourages* the efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan in promoting respect for human rights, expresses its concern at the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, notes with concern reports of incidents in which violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law have occurred, including violations committed against women and children, in particular girls, stresses the need to further promote tolerance and religious freedom as guaranteed by the Afghan Constitution, emphasizes the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, and stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law;

51. *Commends* the Government of Afghanistan for its active participation in the universal periodic review process, calls for continued active participation of Afghan civil society in this process, and encourages the timely implementation of the recommendations addressed in the relevant report;

52. *Stresses* the need to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution, in this regard calls for full implementation of the mass media law, while noting with concern and condemning the continuing intimidation and violence targeting Afghan journalists, such as cases of abduction and even killing of journalists by terrorist as well as extremist and criminal groups, and urges that harassment and attacks on journalists be investigated by Afghan authorities and that those responsible be brought to justice;

53. *Reiterates* the important role of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, stresses the need to guarantee its constitutional status and implement its mandate, focusing on communities across Afghanistan, so as to foster a more informed public and increase Government accountability, urges the Government of Afghanistan to complete the appointment process of commissioners to the Commission in a timely and transparent manner, welcomes the decision of the Government to take full responsibility for the core funding of the Commission and urges the Government to implement this decision, urges the Commission to cooperate closely with Afghan civil society, and calls upon the international community for continued support in this regard;

54. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006, 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006 and 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 and the midyear report of July 2012 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, prepared by the Assistance Mission, expresses its serious concern at the high number of civilian casualties, including women and children, and their impact on local communities, notes that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups remain responsible for the significant majority of civilian casualties, reiterates its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and calls for additional appropriate steps in this regard and for full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law;

55. *Reiterates* the importance of upholding international obligations for the advancement of women's rights as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution, in this context also reiterates the importance of implementing Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and recalls Council resolutions 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009, 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009 and 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010, on women and peace and security;

56. *Commends* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to mainstream gender issues, including into the national priority programmes, and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men as guaranteed, inter alia, by virtue of its ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[49] and by the Afghan Constitution and the implementation of the National Action Plan for Women, reiterates the continued importance of the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life and of equality before the law and equal access to legal counsel without discrimination of any kind, and stresses the need for continued progress on gender issues in accordance with the obligations of Afghanistan under international law;

57. *Strongly condemns* incidents of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and underscores the importance of countering impunity for these incidents, in particular if directed against women activists and women prominent in public life, wherever they occur in Afghanistan, including killings, maimings and "honour killings" in certain parts of the country;

58. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the Elimination of Violence against Women Special Fund of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) as well as for its Urgent Response Fund, which continues to address targeted violence against women and women's rights defenders in Afghanistan, and stresses the need for continued financial contributions by the international community to those funds;

59. *Welcomes* the achievements and efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in countering discrimination, urges the Government to actively involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, as well as in national priority programmes, and accurately track the progress of the full integration of women into political, economic and social life, stresses the need for continued progress on gender equality, in accordance with its obligations under international law and in the empowerment of women in Afghan politics and public administration, including in leadership positions and at the subnational level, also stresses the need to facilitate the access of women to employment and to ensure female literacy and training, and calls upon the international community to continue to provide support in this regard;

60. *Stresses* the need to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children in Afghanistan, and recalls the need for the full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[50] and the two Optional Protocols thereto[51] by all States parties, as well as of Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009 and 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 on children and armed conflict, and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Afghanistan[52] and the conclusions of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict;[53]

61. *Expresses its concern*, in this regard, about the ongoing recruitment and use of children by illegal armed and terrorist groups in Afghanistan as well as the killing and maiming of children as a result of the conflict, stresses the importance of ending the use of children contrary to international law, expresses appreciation for the progress achieved by and the firm commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to the protection of children, including its strong condemnation of any exploitation of children, as indicated by the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee for the Protection of the Rights of Children, the appointment of a focal point on child protection and the signing by the Government, in January 2011, of an action plan, including the annexes thereto, on children associated with national security forces in Afghanistan, welcomes with appreciation the presentation by the

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[49] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[50] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[51] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[52] See A/66/782-S/2012/261.

[53] S/AC.51/2011/3.

Government of its national report on the implementation of the action plan, entailing numerous measures taken within the relevant ministries and institutions for child protection, including to prevent underage recruitment, welcomes progress made in the implementation of the action plan, and calls for the full implementation of the provisions of the action plan, in close cooperation with the Assistance Mission;

62. *Recognizes* the special needs of girls, strongly condemns continued terrorist attacks as well as threats of attacks on educational facilities, especially on those for Afghan girls, and/or hospitals and protected persons in relation to them in Afghanistan, in contravention of applicable international law, and expresses deep concern about the high number of school closures as a result of terrorist attacks or threats of attacks;

63. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Government of Afghanistan of the National Plan of Action on Combating Child Trafficking, calls for the comprehensive implementation of the Plan of Action, welcomes initiatives to amend and enforce legislation on human trafficking, guided by the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[54] and stresses the importance of considering becoming a party to the Protocol;

### Social and economic development

64. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations, including the international and regional financial institutions, to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with the National Development Strategy and the strategy document entitled "Towards self-reliance: strategic vision for the transformation decade", as well as the national priority programmes contained therein, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, development, financial, educational, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan, and recalls in this regard the leading role of the Assistance Mission in seeking to further improve the coherence and coordination of international efforts;

65. *Recognizes* the substantial development and the notable progress achieved by Afghanistan with the steadfast support of the international community in the past years, and expresses its support for the decision taken at the Bonn Conference to implement a transformation decade (2015–2024) in which Afghanistan consolidates its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people;

66. *Also recognizes* the challenges that lie ahead for Afghanistan, and welcomes the generous pledges totalling over 16 billion United States dollars made by the international community during the Tokyo Conference through 2015 and the commitment of the international community to sustain support through 2017 at or near levels of the past decade, thereby renewing its commitment to long-term support for the economic development of Afghanistan on the basis of mutual accountability, while expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations whose international and local staff continue to respond positively to the humanitarian, transition and development needs of Afghanistan despite security concerns and difficulty of access in certain areas;

67. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework and the monitoring mechanism included therein, in which the Government of Afghanistan reaffirms its commitment to strengthen governance, grounded in human rights, the rule of law and adherence to the Afghan Constitution, and holds it as integral to sustained growth and economic development, and welcomes the commitment of the international community to enhance efficiency of development aid by aligning assistance with the Afghan national priority programmes and by channelling assistance through the national budget of the Afghan Government, as outlined in the Tokyo Declaration;

68. *Expresses its appreciation* for the humanitarian and development assistance work of the international community in the stabilization and development of Afghanistan, recognizes the necessity for further improvement in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and emphasizes the need to strengthen and support the development of the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic social services at the national, provincial and local levels, in particular education and public health services, and to promote development;

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[54] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

69. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to enhance efforts to reform key service delivery sectors, such as energy and drinking water supply, as preconditions for progress in social and economic development, commends the Government for its efforts to date to reach fiscal sustainability, notes the challenges ahead, and urges continued commitment to revenue generation;

70. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the provincial reconstruction teams as they work within the provincial context to support national priorities to build the capacities of local institutions;

71. *Encourages* the international community and the corporate sector to support the Afghan economy as a measure for long-term stability and to explore possibilities for increased trade and investments and enhanced local procurement, and further encourages the Government of Afghanistan to continue to promote an economic environment and legal framework favourable for private-sector investments at both the national and subnational levels;

72. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the importance of strengthening local and regional networks of transportation that will facilitate connectivity for economic development, stability and self-sustainability, particularly the completion and maintenance of local railroad and land routes, the development of regional projects to foster further connectivity and the enhancement of international civil aviation capabilities;

73. *Urgently encourages* all States as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to expand agricultural cooperation with Afghanistan, within the National Agricultural Development Framework and in line with the National Development Strategy and the relevant national priority programme, respectively, with a view to helping to eradicate poverty and ensure social and economic development, including in rural communities;

74. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children, especially Afghan girls, with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, welcomes the progress achieved in the sector of public education, recalls the National Education Strategic Plan as a promising basis for further achievements, encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, to expand those facilities, train professional staff and promote full and equal access to them by all members of Afghan society, including in remote areas, and reiterates further the need to provide vocational training for adolescents;

75. *Commends* the relief efforts by the Government of Afghanistan and donors, but continues to express its concern at the overall humanitarian situation, stresses the continued need for food assistance, ensuring that the basic needs of internally displaced persons are met, and calls for continued international support in this regard, as well as for the early fulfilment, before the approaching winter, of the urgent humanitarian needs in the 2012 consolidated appeal for Afghanistan;

76. *Recognizes* that underdevelopment and lack of capacity increase the vulnerability of Afghanistan to natural disasters and to harsh climate conditions, and urges in this regard the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the international community, to increase its efforts aimed at strengthening disaster risk reduction at the national and subnational levels and at modernizing the agricultural sector and strengthening its agricultural production, thereby reducing the vulnerability of Afghanistan to adverse external conditions such as drought, flooding and other natural disasters;

77. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, in particular Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard, and asks for continued generous support by the international community, with a view to facilitating their voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return, rehabilitation and reintegration;

78. *Welcomes* the holding of the International Conference on the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries in Geneva on 2 and 3 May 2012 and the joint communiqué of the Conference, aiming at increased sustainability of returns and continued support for host countries;

79. *Reiterates* to host countries and the international community the obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to ensure full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian relief agencies in order to provide protection and assistance to the refugees, and calls upon countries to continue to accept an appropriate number of Afghan refugees for resettlement, as a manifestation of their shared responsibility and solidarity;

80. *Welcomes* the continued return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, in a voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable manner, while noting with concern that conditions in parts of Afghanistan are not yet conducive to a safe and sustainable return to some places of origin;

81. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, acting with the support of the international community, to continue to strengthen its efforts to create the conditions for sustainable return by continuing to strengthen its absorption capacity for the full rehabilitation and reintegration of the remaining Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons;

82. *Notes*, in this regard, the continued constructive work between the countries of the region, as well as the tripartite agreements between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Government of Afghanistan and the Governments of countries hosting refugees from Afghanistan, in particular Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran;

**Regional cooperation**

83. *Stresses* the crucial role of advancing constructive regional cooperation in promoting peace, security, stability and economic and social development in Afghanistan, encourages further improved relations and enhanced engagement between Afghanistan and its neighbours, and calls for further efforts in this regard, including by regional organizations;

84. *Commends* the continuing efforts of the signatories to the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations of 22 December 2002[55] to implement their commitments under the Declaration, calls upon all other States to respect and support the implementation of those provisions, and welcomes the reaffirmation, in the Kabul Conference communiqué, of the principles set out in the Declaration;

85. *Welcomes and encourages* further efforts by the Government of Afghanistan and its neighbouring partners to foster trust and cooperation with each other, and looks forward, where appropriate, to increasing cooperation between Afghanistan, all its neighbouring and regional partners and regional organizations against the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups and illegal armed groups and in promoting peace and prosperity in Afghanistan, in the region and beyond;

86. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the increased efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, its neighbouring and regional partners and international organizations to foster trust and cooperation with each other, as well as recent cooperation initiatives developed by the countries concerned and regional organizations;

87. *Also welcomes* the holding of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Heart of Asia, encourages Afghanistan and its regional partners to actively endeavour to implement confidence-building measures, welcomes the recent efforts undertaken to further develop confidence-building measures in the areas of disaster management, counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics, chambers of commerce, commercial opportunities, regional infrastructure and education within the framework set out in the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan,[43] adopted on 2 November 2011 and reinforced in the follow-up Heart of Asia Ministerial Conference, held in Kabul on 14 June 2012, which set out a framework for consultations on confidence-building measures in the region, further welcomes the progress made towards the implementation of the confidence-building measures and also the discussion on the confidence-building measures action plans, as presented during senior official meetings, the most recent of which was held in Ankara on 18 October 2012, and notes that the Istanbul Process is intended to complement and cooperate with, and not substitute for, existing efforts of regional organizations, particularly where they relate to Afghanistan;

88. *Expresses its appreciation* for all efforts to increase regional economic cooperation aimed at promoting economic cooperation between Afghanistan, regional neighbours, international partners and financial institutions, and recognizes, inter alia, the important role of the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan, the Delhi Investment Summit on Afghanistan of 28 June 2012 and its recommendations for promoting foreign investment and private sector development and partnerships of Afghanistan, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation Programme and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, as well as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in promoting the development of Afghanistan;

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[55] S/2002/1416, annex.

89. *Welcomes* the decision of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to grant Afghanistan observer status in the Organization;

90. *Welcomes and urges* further efforts to strengthen the process of regional economic cooperation, including measures to facilitate regional trade and transit, including through regional and bilateral transit trade agreements, expanded consular visa cooperation and facilitation of business travel, to expand trade, to increase foreign investments and to develop infrastructure, including infrastructural connectivity, energy supply, transport and integrated border management, with a view to promoting sustainable economic growth and the creation of jobs in Afghanistan, noting the historical role of Afghanistan as a land bridge in Asia;

91. *Encourages* the Group of Eight countries to continue to stimulate and support cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbours through mutual consultation and agreement, including on development projects in areas such as infrastructural connectivity, border management and economic development;

### Counter-narcotics

92. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in fighting drug production in Afghanistan, takes note of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Afghanistan Opium Survey 2011", released in December 2011, reiterates its deep concern about the increase in the cultivation and production of illicit narcotic drugs in Afghanistan, mainly concentrated in areas where the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminals are particularly active, as well as the ongoing drug trafficking, and, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, stresses the need for strengthened joint, more coordinated and resolute efforts by the Government, supported by the international and regional actors as well as the Assistance Force, within their designated responsibilities, to fight this menace;

93. *Stresses* the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in addressing the drug problem of Afghanistan, which, to be effective, must be integrated into the wider context of efforts carried out in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law and human rights, and economic and social development;

94. *Also stresses*, in this regard, that the development of alternative livelihood programmes is of key importance in the success of the counter-narcotics efforts in Afghanistan and that sustainable strategies require international cooperation, and urges the Government of Afghanistan, assisted by the international community, to promote the development of sustainable livelihoods in the formal production sector, as well as in other sectors, and to improve access to reasonable and sustainable credit and financing in rural areas, thus improving substantially the lives, health and security of the people, particularly in rural areas;

95. *Notes with great concern* the strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminal groups, which pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan, and stresses the importance of the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions in this regard, including resolutions 1735 (2006) of 22 December 2006 and 1822 (2008) of 30 June 2008;

96. *Calls upon* all Member States, in this regard, to further intensify their efforts to reduce the demand for drugs in their respective countries and globally in order to contribute to the sustainability of the elimination of illicit cultivation in Afghanistan;

97. *Stresses* the need to prevent trafficking in and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacturing of drugs in Afghanistan, and calls for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1817 (2008) of 11 June 2008 in this regard;

98. *Supports* the fight against the illicit trafficking in drugs from and precursors to Afghanistan and neighbouring States and countries along trafficking routes, including increased cooperation among them in strengthening anti-narcotic controls and the monitoring of the international trade in chemical precursors, and underlines the importance of technical assistance and support to the most affected transit States to support their capacities in this regard;

99. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, supported by the international community, to work to mainstream counter-narcotics throughout all the national programmes and to ensure that counter-narcotics is a fundamental part of the comprehensive approach, as well as to increase its efforts against opium cultivation and drug trafficking in accordance with the balanced plan of the updated Afghan National Drug Control Strategy;

100. *Commends* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard, as well as the efforts to update and carry out the National Drug Control Strategy, including the Prioritized Implementation Plan and benchmarks, urges the Government and the international community to take decisive action, in particular to stop the processing of and trade in drugs, by pursuing the concrete steps set out in the Strategy and through initiatives such as the Good Performers Initiative established to provide incentives for governors to reduce cultivation in their provinces, and encourages the Afghan authorities to work at the provincial level on elaborating counter-narcotics implementation plans;

101. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its National Drug Control Strategy, aimed at eliminating the cultivation, production, trafficking in and consumption of illicit drugs, including through increased support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, agricultural and rural development for the creation of alternative livelihoods for farmers, demand reduction, the elimination of illicit crops, increased public awareness and the building of the capacity of drug control institutions and care and treatment centres for drug addicts, and reiterates its call upon the international community to channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government to the extent possible;

102. *Recalls* the need to strengthen international and regional cooperation with Afghanistan in its sustained efforts to address drug production and trafficking, recognizes the threat posed by illicit drug production, trade and trafficking to international peace and stability in the region and beyond, also recognizes the progress achieved by relevant initiatives within the framework of the Paris Pact initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, stresses the importance of further progress in the implementation of these initiatives, and welcomes the results of the ministerial meeting of the Paris Pact initiative, held in Vienna on 16 February 2012, in continuation of the "Paris-Moscow" process, as one of the most important frameworks in the fight against opiates, underscores the importance of the effective implementation of the Vienna Declaration[56] by its partner countries, working in consultation with the Government of Afghanistan and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, encourages further sustained efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard, as well as the intent of the Government to strengthen international and regional cooperation in this regard, and welcomes the progress made in the Heart of Asia process in this regard;

103. *Pays homage* to all those who have innocently lost their lives in the fight against drug traffickers, in particular members of the security forces of Afghanistan and its neighbours;

104. *Welcomes* initiatives to enhance border management cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbours in ensuring comprehensive measures for drug control, including the financial dimension, emphasizes the importance of pursuing such cooperation, especially through bilateral arrangements and those launched by the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Central Asian Anti-Drug Quartet and others, and welcomes the intention of the Government of Afghanistan to strengthen international and regional cooperation with relevant partners in the field of border control;

105. *Stresses* the importance of further, effective cooperative support by relevant international and regional actors, including the United Nations and the Assistance Force, within its designated responsibilities, to Afghan-led sustained efforts to address the threat posed by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, welcomes in this regard the regional programme on Afghanistan and neighbouring countries of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and encourages the respective countries to continue to participate;

106. *Acknowledges* the regional activities carried out by Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan within the framework of their triangular initiative to counter narcotics;

107. *Stresses* the need for coordinated regional efforts to combat the drug problem, and in this regard welcomes the holding of the Regional Ministerial Conference on Counter-Narcotics in Islamabad on 12 and 13 November 2012, aimed at enhancing regional cooperation to counter narcotics;

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[56] See E/CN.7/2012/17.

### Coordination

108. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Assistance Mission as mandated by the Security Council in resolution 2041 (2012), and stresses the continued importance of the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations in promoting a more coherent international engagement;

109. *Welcomes* the evolving presence of the Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, which ensures that the United Nations can fulfil its essential coordinating and support role, as requested by the Government of Afghanistan, security conditions permitting;

110. *Stresses* the need to ensure that the Assistance Mission is adequately resourced and protected by the Afghan authorities, with international support, as appropriate, to fulfil its mandate;

111. *Acknowledges* the central role played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board, stresses that the role of the Board is to support Afghanistan by, inter alia, monitoring and supporting the Kabul process and coordinating international assistance and development programmes, and welcomes further efforts to provide appropriate guidance and promote a more coherent international engagement;

112. *Expresses its appreciation for and emphasizes the importance* of the continued and long-term commitment of the international community to support the stability and development of Afghanistan, recalls the additional international support as pledged, and welcomes in this context the decisions taken at the Tokyo Conference;

113. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every three months on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

114. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

## RESOLUTION 67/17

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 28 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.26 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam, Zambia

### 67/17. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003, 59/10 of 27 October 2004, its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, to strengthen sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/9 of 3 November 2005, 61/10 of 3 November 2006, 62/271 of 23 July 2008, 63/135 of 11 December 2008 and 65/4 of 18 October 2010,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sport for development and peace: mainstreaming a versatile instrument",[57] which reviews the programmes and initiatives implemented by States Members of the United Nations, United Nations funds and programmes, specialized agencies and other partners, using sport as a tool for development and peace,

*Acknowledging* the major role of Member States and the United Nations system in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

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[57] A/67/282.

*Recognizing* the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, noting that sport has the potential, as declared in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[58] to foster peace and development and to contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, and reaffirming that sport is a tool for education that can promote cooperation, solidarity, social inclusion and health at the local, national and international levels, as declared in the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[59]

*Recognizing also* the need to strengthen and further coordinate efforts, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, at all levels to maximize the potential of sport for contributing to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and national peacebuilding and State-building priorities,

*Acknowledging* the importance of sport and physical activity in combating non-communicable diseases, as reflected in the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[60]

*Recalling* its resolution 64/3 of 19 October 2009, in which the International Olympic Committee was invited to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer, and welcoming the partnerships that many United Nations system organizations have established with the International Olympic Committee, including the International Forum on Sport, Peace and Development, jointly organized with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace,

*Affirming* the invaluable contribution of the Olympic movement in establishing sport as a unique means for the promotion of peace and development, in particular through the ideal of the Olympic Truce,

*Welcoming* the joint statement dated 28 May 2012 of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland[61] to promote the ideals of the Olympic Truce in advance of the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Summer Games in London in 2012 and the XXII Olympic Winter Games and the XI Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russian Federation, in 2014, and recognizing the importance of partnerships with the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee, the International Olympic Truce Centre, future hosts of the Games, such as the Russian Federation, Brazil and the Republic of Korea, the United Nations and other Member States in supporting the implementation of future resolutions on the Olympic Truce,

*Acknowledging* the opportunities provided by the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Summer Games, held in London, for education, understanding, peace, harmony and tolerance among and between peoples and civilizations, and the opportunities provided by the first Youth Winter Olympic Games, held in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012, to inspire the youth of the world to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values, as reflected in resolution 66/5 of 17 October 2011 relating to the Olympic Truce,

*Welcoming* the success of the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Summer Games in relation to the international outreach programmes that focused on inspiring all sectors of society to learn about and promote the values of the Olympic Truce, acknowledging the International Inspiration legacy programme of the United Kingdom, which has given 12 million children in 20 countries access to sport to promote dialogue, peace and development, and calling upon future hosts of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games and other Member States to include sport, as appropriate, in conflict-prevention activities and to ensure the effective implementation of the Olympic Truce during the Games,

*Recalling* article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[62] outlining a child's right to play and leisure, and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[63] stressing the promotion of physical, mental and emotional health through play and sports,

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[58] Resolution 60/1.

[59] Resolution 65/1.

[60] Resolution 66/2, annex.

[61] A/66/831, annex.

[62] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[63] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

*Recalling also* article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[64] outlining the right of persons with disabilities to take part on an equal basis with others in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport,

*Recognizing* the important role played by the International Convention against Doping in Sport[65] in harmonizing the actions taken by Governments in the fight against doping in sport, which are complementary to those undertaken by the sporting movement under the World Anti-Doping Code of the World Anti-Doping Agency,

*Acknowledging* the recommendations contained in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group entitled "Harnessing the power of sport for development and peace: recommendations to Governments", encouraging Member States to implement the recommendations, and welcoming in this regard the efforts undertaken by the secretariat of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, hosted by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace,

*Recognizing* the need for indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards to assist Governments to enable the consolidation of sport in cross-cutting development strategies and the incorporation of sport and physical education in international, regional and national development policies and programmes, as laid out in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group,

*Recalling* resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010, by which the General Assembly established the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and the opportunities it provides for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in and through sport, and welcoming the continued advancement of women in sports and sporting activities, in particular the support for their progressive high performance in sporting events, which provides opportunities for economic development through sports,

*Highlighting* the importance of continuing to reduce barriers to participation in sport events, particularly for participants from developing countries,

*Emphasizing* the critical role of productive public-private partnerships for funding sports administrations and institutional development and physical and social infrastructures,

1. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, including its peacekeeping missions, special political missions and integrated peacebuilding missions, sport-related organizations, federations and associations, athletes, the media, civil society, academia and the private sector to collaborate with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace to promote greater awareness and action to foster peace and accelerate the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals through sport-based initiatives and promote the integration of sport for development and peace in the development agenda, by working along the following principles adapted from the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session:[57]

(*a*) Global framework for sport for development and peace: further develop a framework to strengthen a common vision, define priorities and further raise awareness to promote and mainstream policies on sport for development and peace that are easily replicable;

(*b*) Policy development: promote and support the integration and mainstreaming of sport for development and peace in development programmes and policies, including mechanisms for growth and wealth;

(*c*) Resource mobilization and programming: promote innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements at all levels, including the engagement of sport organizations, civil society, athletes and the private sector, to create effective programmes with sustainable impact;

(*d*) Evidence of impact: promote and facilitate common evaluation and monitoring tools, indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide institutional structures, appropriate quality standards, policies and competencies and promote academic research and expertise in the field to enable ongoing training, capacity-building and education of physical education teachers, coaches and community leaders in sport for development and peace programmes;

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[64] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[65] Ibid., vol. 2419, No. 43649.

3. *Invites* Member States and international sport organizations to continue to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education, by providing national experiences and best practices, as well as financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sport programmes;

4. *Encourages* the stakeholders referred to in paragraph 1 above to emphasize and advance the use of sport as a vehicle to foster development and strengthen education, including physical education, for children and young persons, prevent disease and promote health, including the prevention of drug abuse, realize gender equality and empower girls and women, foster the inclusion and well-being of persons with disabilities and facilitate social inclusion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding;

5. *Encourages* the stakeholders, and in particular the organizers of mass sport events, to use and leverage such events to promote and support sport for development and peace initiatives and to strengthen existing and build new partnerships, coordinate common strategies, policies and programmes and increase coherence and synergies, while raising awareness at the local, national, regional and global levels;

6. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to designate a focal point for sport for development and peace within their governments and provide updates to the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace on institutional, policy and programme-related developments;

7. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying and acceding to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[62] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[64] and the International Convention against Doping in Sport;[65]

8. *Notes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, Member States and civil society for the observance of the Olympic Truce, and encourages future hosts of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games and other Member States to support the effective implementation of the Truce;

9. *Appreciates* the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, supported by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, on issues relating to sport for development and peace within the United Nations system and beyond;

10. *Encourages* Member States, in particular those committed to promoting sport as a tool for development and peace, and other stakeholders, such as international sports federations, organizers of global mass sports events, sports clubs and leagues, foundations and the private sector, especially businesses involved in the sports sector, to provide voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace and to enter into innovative partnerships with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, which is funded exclusively through voluntary contributions, and the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, in order to sustain the mandate of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, ensure the continuous activities of the Office and provide project implementation funding for the Office and the United Nations system at large;

11. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts undertaken by the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, which met for its second and third plenary sessions on 12 May 2011 and 2 October 2012, and the commencement of the substantive work of the thematic working groups on sport and peace and sport and gender, in addition to the working group on sport and child and youth development;

12. *Invites* Member States and other relevant stakeholders, as observers, to join and support the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, so as to further strengthen its work on all envisaged themes, including the pending thematic working groups on sport and persons with disabilities, as well as sport and health;

13. *Encourages* Member States to join and participate in the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, an informal group of permanent missions to the United Nations in New York serving as a platform to promote dialogue and facilitate and encourage the integration of sport to support the achievement of the United Nations goals and objectives;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on specific initiatives aimed at ensuring more effective implementation of the Olympic Truce and progress made by Member States and the United Nations system, including activities and the functioning of the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace and the

Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace, as well as other relevant stakeholders, towards the implementation of the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace and the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group policy recommendations, provide a review of the contribution of sport to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the lead-up to 2015, and present an updated action plan on sport for development and peace;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session an item entitled "Sport for development and peace".

## RESOLUTION 67/18

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 28 November 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.25 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay

### 67/18. Education for democracy

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles and purposes contained therein, and recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the right of everyone to education, which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[66] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[67] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[68] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[69] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[70] and in other relevant instruments,

*Recalling* the plan of action for the second phase (2010–2014) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education,[71]

*Reaffirming* that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,[72]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[73] wherein the Member States committed themselves to sparing no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and resolved to respect fully and uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to strive for the full protection and promotion in all countries of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for all and to strengthen the capacity of all countries to implement the principles and practices of democracy and respect for human rights, including minority rights,

*Recognizing* that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region,

*Mindful* of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights,[74] the World Plan of Action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy adopted by the International Congress on

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[66] Resolution 217 A (III).

[67] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[68] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[69] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[70] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[71] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap. II, resolution 15/11.

[72] Resolution 60/1, para. 135.

[73] Resolution 55/2.

[74] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Education for Human Rights and Democracy,[75] the World Programme for Human Rights Education proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/113 A of 10 December 2004 and the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training,[76]

*Recalling with appreciation* the establishment of the United Nations Democracy Fund and the efforts of the Fund to advance the United Nations democracy agenda as well as the operational activities in support of democratization processes carried out by the United Nations system, including by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme,

*Acknowledging* the role of international, regional and other intergovernmental organizations in support of democracy,

*Recognizing* that education is key to the strengthening of democratic institutions, the realization of human rights and the achievement of all international development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the development of human potential, poverty alleviation and the fostering of greater understanding among peoples,

1. *Reaffirms* the fundamental link between democratic governance, peace, development and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

2. *Takes note* of the Education First initiative launched by the Secretary-General on 26 September 2012, in particular its third priority area, on fostering global citizenship;

3. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen their efforts to promote the values of peace, human rights, democracy, respect for religious and cultural diversity and justice through education;

4. *Strongly encourages* Member States to integrate education for democracy, along with civic education and human rights education, into national education standards and to develop and strengthen national and subnational programmes, curricula and curricular and extracurricular educational activities aimed at the promotion and consolidation of democratic values and democratic governance and human rights, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices in the field, in order to facilitate citizens' empowerment and participation in political life and policymaking at all levels;

5. *Invites* United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Democracy Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to provide appropriate expertise and resources for the development of relevant educational programmes and materials for democracy;

6. *Encourages* international, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, within their respective mandates, to share their best practices and experiences in the field of education for democracy, including but not limited to civic education, with each other and with the United Nations system, as appropriate;

7. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on the right to education to seek, in close cooperation with Member States, the views of Governments, United Nations agencies and programmes and civil society, and other relevant United Nations mandate holders in order that he may include in his next report to the General Assembly, at its sixty-ninth session, an update on the efforts of Member States in the field of education for democracy;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the issue of education for democracy at its sixty-ninth session, under the agenda item entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields";

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[75] A/CONF.157/PC/42/Add.6.

[76] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. I, resolution 16/1, annex.

9. *Invites* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts to promote education for democracy, and requests the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/19

Adopted at the 44th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 138 to 9, with 41 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.28 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Czech Republic, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Estonia, Fiji, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malawi, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

### 67/19. Status of Palestine in the United Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and stressing in this regard the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

*Recalling* its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,[77] by which it affirmed, inter alia, the duty of every State to promote, through joint and separate action, realization of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

*Stressing* the importance of maintaining and strengthening international peace founded upon freedom, equality, justice and respect for fundamental human rights,

*Recalling* its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947,

*Reaffirming* the principle, set out in the Charter, of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

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[77] Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

*Reaffirming also* relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

*Reaffirming further* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including with regard to the matter of prisoners,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and all relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/146 of 19 December 2011, reaffirming the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 43/176 of 15 December 1988 and 66/17 of 30 November 2011 and all relevant resolutions regarding the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, which, inter alia, stress the need for the withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State, a just resolution of the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Reaffirming further* its resolution 66/18 of 30 November 2011 and all relevant resolutions regarding the status of Jerusalem, bearing in mind that the annexation of East Jerusalem is not recognized by the international community, and emphasizing the need for a way to be found through negotiations to resolve the status of Jerusalem as the capital of two States,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,[79]

*Reaffirming* its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004 affirming, inter alia, that the status of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, remains one of military occupation and that, in accordance with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, the Palestinian people have the right to self-determination and to sovereignty over their territory,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3210 (XXIX) of 14 October 1974 and 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, by which, respectively, the Palestine Liberation Organization was invited to participate in the deliberations of the General Assembly as the representative of the Palestinian people and was granted observer status,

*Recalling also* its resolution 43/177 of 15 December 1988, by which it, inter alia, acknowledged the proclamation of the State of Palestine by the Palestine National Council on 15 November 1988 and decided that the designation "Palestine" should be used in place of the designation "Palestine Liberation Organization" in the United Nations system, without prejudice to the observer status and functions of the Palestine Liberation Organization within the United Nations system,

*Taking into consideration* that the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in accordance with a decision by the Palestine National Council, is entrusted with the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of the State of Palestine,[80]

*Recalling* its resolution 52/250 of 7 July 1998, by which additional rights and privileges were accorded to Palestine in its capacity as observer,

*Recalling also* the Arab Peace Initiative adopted in March 2002 by the Council of the League of Arab States,[81]

*Reaffirming its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of an independent, sovereign, democratic, viable and contiguous State of Palestine living side by side with Israel in peace and security on the basis of the pre-1967 borders,

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[78] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[79] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[80] See A/43/928, annex.

[81] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

*Bearing in mind* the mutual recognition of 9 September 1993 between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

*Affirming* the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

*Commending* the Palestinian National Authority's 2009 plan for constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State within a two-year period, and welcoming the positive assessments in this regard about readiness for statehood by the World Bank, the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund and as reflected in the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee Chair conclusions of April 2011 and subsequent Chair conclusions, which determined that the Palestinian Authority is above the threshold for a functioning State in key sectors studied,

*Recognizing* that full membership is enjoyed by Palestine in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Group of Asia-Pacific States and that Palestine is also a full member of the League of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Group of 77 and China,

*Recognizing also* that, to date, 132 States Members of the United Nations have accorded recognition to the State of Palestine,

*Taking note* of the 11 November 2011 report of the Security Council Committee on the Admission of New Members,[82]

*Stressing* the permanent responsibility of the United Nations towards the question of Palestine until it is satisfactorily resolved in all its aspects,

*Reaffirming* the principle of universality of membership of the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to independence in their State of Palestine on the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

2. *Decides* to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations, without prejudice to the acquired rights, privileges and role of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the United Nations as the representative of the Palestinian people, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and practice;

3. *Expresses the hope* that the Security Council will consider favourably the application submitted on 23 September 2011 by the State of Palestine for admission to full membership in the United Nations;[83]

4. *Affirms its determination* to contribute to the achievement of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the attainment of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East that ends the occupation that began in 1967 and fulfils the vision of two States: an independent, sovereign, democratic, contiguous and viable State of Palestine living side by side in peace and security with Israel on the basis of the pre-1967 borders;

5. *Expresses the urgent need* for the resumption and acceleration of negotiations within the Middle East peace process based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[81] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[84] for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides that resolves all outstanding core issues, namely the Palestine refugees, Jerusalem, settlements, borders, security and water;

6. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination, independence and freedom;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to implement the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly within three months on progress made in this regard.

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[82] S/2011/705.

[83] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

[84] S/2003/529, annex.

## RESOLUTION 67/20

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 106 to 7, with 56 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.17 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

### 67/20. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its emergency special sessions and its resolution 66/14 of 30 November 2011,

*Recalling also* its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[85]

*Recalling* the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

*Affirming its support* for the Middle East peace process on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session[86] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[87]

*Expressing grave concern* about the impasse in the peace process and the serious deterioration of the situation on the ground, and calling for an urgent resumption of the peace process,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[88] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

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[85] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/67/35).

[86] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[87] S/2003/529, annex.

[88] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

*Taking note* of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[89]

*Reaffirming* that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[85] including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the Middle East peace process for the achievement of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and in this regard authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations and parliamentarians in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of political instability, humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[86] and the Quartet road map;[87]

5. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee in the performance of its tasks;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

## RESOLUTION 67/21

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 103 to 7, with 61 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.18 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's

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[89] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

## 67/21. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[90]

*Taking note*, in particular, of the action taken by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat in accordance with their mandates,

*Recalling* its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including its resolution 66/15 of 30 November 2011,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 66/15;

2. *Considers* that, by providing substantive support to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a most useful and constructive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and of the urgency of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine in all its aspects on the basis of international law and United Nations resolutions and the efforts being exerted in this regard, and to generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;

4. *Requests* the Division, in particular, to continue to monitor developments relevant to the question of Palestine, organize international meetings and conferences in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, liaise and cooperate with civil society and parliamentarians, develop and expand the "Question of Palestine" website and the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, prepare and widely disseminate publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and develop and enhance the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts;

5. *Also requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity;

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[90] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/67/35).

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation with the Division of the United Nations system entities with programme components addressing various aspects of the question of Palestine and the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks.

## RESOLUTION 67/22

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 160 to 7, with 7 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.19 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, El Salvador, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu

### 67/22. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[91]

*Taking note*, in particular, of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/16 of 30 November 2011,

*Convinced* that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and independence, and for the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

*Recalling* the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

*Affirming its support* for the Middle East peace process on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[92] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[93]

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[91] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/67/35).

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[94]

*Reaffirming* that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 66/16;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process and should receive the necessary support for the fulfilment of its tasks;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for 2012–2013, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine and the peace process, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations, as well as on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy vis-à-vis the peace process;

(*b*) To continue to issue, update and modernize publications and audiovisual materials on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the relevant recent developments in that regard, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(*c*) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly Building as well as at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna;

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists aimed in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and the peace process and at enhancing dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including by fostering and encouraging the contribution of the media in support of peace between the two sides;

(*f*) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists;

4. *Encourages* the Department to formulate ways for the media and representatives of civil society to engage in open and positive discussions to explore means for encouraging people-to-people dialogue and promoting peace and mutual understanding in the region.

## RESOLUTION 67/23

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 163 to 6, with 5 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.20 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq,

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[92] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[93] S/2003/529, annex.

[94] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

[*] *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Tonga

## 67/23. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

*Recalling also* its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

*Recalling further* relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

*Recalling* the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

*Noting with concern* that it has been 65 years since the adoption of its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and 45 years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 66/17 of 30 November 2011,[95]

*Reaffirming* the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law and relevant resolutions,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[96] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

*Convinced* that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

*Stressing* that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

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[95] A/67/364-S/2012/701.

[96] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

*Recalling* its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

*Reaffirming* the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

*Expressing grave concern* about the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including on the contiguity, integrity and viability of the Territory and the efforts to resume and advance the peace process and to achieve peace in the Middle East,

*Expressing grave concern also* about acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands,

*Reaffirming* the illegality of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including settlement construction and expansion, home demolitions, evictions of Palestinian residents, excavations in and around religious and historic sites, and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and of the Territory as a whole,

*Reaffirming also* that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

*Expressing deep concern* about the continuing Israeli policy of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian, via the imposition of prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, as well as of checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the contiguity of the Territory and the serious socioeconomic and humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people, which is critical in the Gaza Strip, and on the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the damaged Palestinian economy, while taking note of recent developments regarding the situation of access to the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank,

*Recalling* the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[97] and the need for full compliance with the agreements concluded between the two sides,

*Recalling also* the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[98] and the call in Council resolution 1850 (2008) for the parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map and to refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations, and recalling further in this regard the relevant Quartet statements, including that of 23 September 2011,

*Stressing* the road map obligation upon Israel to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

*Recalling* the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[99]

*Expressing support* for the agreed principles for bilateral negotiations, as affirmed by the parties in the Israeli-Palestinian Joint Understanding reached at the international conference held in Annapolis, United States of America, on 27 November 2007, aimed at concluding a peace treaty resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for the achievement of a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and ultimately of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

*Reiterating* support for the convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in resolution 1850 (2008) and the Quartet statement of 23 September 2011, for the advancement and acceleration of a resumed peace process towards the fulfilment of its stated objectives,

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[97] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[98] S/2003/529, annex.

[99] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

*Noting* the important contribution to the peace process of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including within the framework of the activities of the Quartet,

*Noting also* the continuing efforts of the Quartet's Special Representative towards the resumption of the peace process, in particular the efforts to strengthen Palestinian institutions, promote Palestinian economic development and mobilize donor support,

*Welcoming* the ongoing efforts of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, under the chairmanship of Norway, and noting its recent meeting at United Nations Headquarters on 23 September 2012, at which the donor countries reconfirmed the assessment that the institutions of the Palestinian Authority are above the threshold of a functioning State in the key sectors studied and reaffirmed the necessity of continued and increased donor support for the Palestinian Authority,

*Recognizing* the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Authority, with international support, to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions, emphasizing the need to preserve and further develop Palestinian institutions and infrastructure and commending, in this regard, the implementation of the Palestinian Authority's August 2009 plan for constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State within a twenty-four-month period and the ongoing implementation of its National Development Plan, and the significant achievements made, as confirmed in recent reports by international institutions, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations, while also expressing concern about the negative impact of the current financial crisis being faced by the Palestinian Authority,

*Welcoming* the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the security sector by the Palestinian Authority, calling upon the parties to continue cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

*Reiterating its concern* over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, acts of violence, vandalism and brutality committed against Palestinian civilians by Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property, including religious sites, and infrastructure, the internal displacement of civilians and the serious deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

*Expressing grave concern*, in particular, over the crisis in the Gaza Strip as a result of the continuing prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, widespread damage and destruction to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure, public institutions, including hospitals and schools, and United Nations facilities, and internal displacement of civilians,

*Stressing* the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

*Expressing concern* over continuing military actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including raids and arrest campaigns, and the continued imposition of hundreds of checkpoints and obstacles to movement in and around Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces, and emphasizing in this regard the need for the implementation by both sides of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings,

*Expressing grave concern* about the imprisonment by Israel of thousands of Palestinians, including children, under harsh conditions,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, including the firing of rockets,

*Expressing the hope* for speedy progress towards Palestinian reconciliation for the restoration of Palestinian unity, under the leadership of the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, and consistent with Palestine Liberation Organization commitments, and of the situation in the Gaza Strip to that which existed prior to June 2007, and calling for the continuation of the serious efforts being exerted by Egypt, the League of Arab States and other concerned parties towards the achievement of this aim, *Stressing* the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement, including by the Quartet, to support both parties in resuming, advancing and accelerating the peace process negotiations for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, the road map and the Arab Peace Initiative,

*Noting* the Quartet's efforts, and calling upon the parties to resume negotiations with the aim of resolving all final status issues within one year and implementing an agreement between the two sides that ends the occupation which began in 1967 and results in the independence of a democratic, contiguous and viable Palestinian State living side by side in peace and security with Israel and its other neighbours,

*Taking note* of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[100]

*Acknowledging* the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

*Recalling* the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,[101]

*Affirming once again* the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end, and stresses in this regard the urgency of salvaging the prospects for realizing the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

2. *Also reaffirms* its full support for the Middle East peace process, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[99] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[98] and for the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides;

3. *Stresses* the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the ongoing efforts of the Quartet and of the League of Arab States;

4. *Encourages* continued serious regional and international efforts to follow up and promote the Arab Peace Initiative, including by the Ministerial Committee formed at the Riyadh summit in March 2007;

5. *Urges* the parties to undertake, with the support of the Quartet and the international community, immediate and concrete steps in follow-up to the Israeli-Palestinian Joint Understanding reached at the international conference held in Annapolis, including through the resumption of active and serious bilateral negotiations;

6. *Calls for*, in this regard, the timely convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in resolution 1850 (2008), for the advancement and acceleration of a resumed peace process;

7. *Calls upon* both parties to act on the basis of international law and their previous agreements and obligations, in particular adherence to the road map, irrespective of reciprocity, in order to create the conditions necessary for the resumption and accelerated advancement of negotiations in the near term;

8. *Calls upon* the parties themselves, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, to exert all efforts necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation and to reverse all unilateral and unlawful measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000;

9. *Calls upon* the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity;

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[100] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

[101] A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 161.

10. *Underscores* the need for the parties to take confidence-building measures aimed at improving the situation on the ground, promoting stability and fostering the peace process, including the need for the further release of prisoners following the exchange of prisoners in October and December 2011;

11. *Stresses* the need for the removal of checkpoints and other obstructions to the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

12. *Also stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

13. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

14. *Reiterates* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, specifically, to allow for the sustained opening of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian supplies, movement and access, as well as for commercial flows and all necessary construction materials, which are essential for alleviating the humanitarian crisis, improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and promoting the recovery of the Palestinian economy;

15. *Stresses*, in this regard, the urgent necessity for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, including through the completion of numerous suspended projects managed by the United Nations and the accelerated implementation of United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities;

16. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Territory, including via the confiscation and de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations;

17. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

18. *Stresses*, in this regard, the need for Israel forthwith to abide by its road map obligation to freeze all settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle settlement outposts erected since March 2001;

19. *Calls for* the cessation of all provocations, including by Israeli settlers, in East Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites;

20. *Demands*, accordingly, that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[96] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003 and ES-10/15, and, inter alia, that it immediately cease its construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls upon all States Members of the United Nations to comply with their legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion;

21. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

22. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(*b*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

23. *Also stresses* the need for a just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

24. *Calls upon* the parties to resume and accelerate direct peace negotiations towards the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, especially of the Security Council, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, the road map and the Arab Peace Initiative;

25. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period in order to help to alleviate the serious humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which is critical in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the development and strengthening of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts in preparation for independence;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

## RESOLUTION 67/24

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 162 to 7, with 6 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.23 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu

### 67/24. Jerusalem

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

*Recalling also* its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

*Recalling further* the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" on Jerusalem, *Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[102] and recalling its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

*Expressing its grave concern* about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

*Expressing its grave concern also*, in particular, about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on Palestinian access to and residence in East Jerusalem and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudge a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

*Expressing its grave concern further* about the continuing Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes, the revocation of residency rights and the eviction and displacement of numerous Palestinian families from East Jerusalem neighbourhoods, as well as other acts of provocation and incitement, including by Israeli settlers, in the city, including desecration of mosques and churches,

*Expressing its concern* about the Israeli excavations undertaken in the Old City of Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites,

*Reaffirming* that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and in the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[103]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to immediately cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;

2. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by people of all religions and nationalities;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/25

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2012, by a recorded vote of 110 to 6, with 59 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.24 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab

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[102] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[103] A/67/342.

Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

### 67/25. The Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[104]

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

*Reaffirming* the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming once more* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[105] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Deeply concerned* that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

*Stressing* the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

*Noting with satisfaction* the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

*Expressing grave concern* over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907,[106] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,[105] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

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[104] A/67/342.

[105] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[106] Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/78

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2012, by a recorded vote of 125 to 1, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.21 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United States of America

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Turkey

*Abstaining:* Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### 67/78. Oceans and the law of the sea

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 66/231 of 24 December 2011, and other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),[107]

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[108] the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group)[109] and the reports on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (the Informal Consultative Process) at its thirteenth meeting,[110] on the twenty-second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[111] and on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (the Regular Process),[112]

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[107] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[108] A/67/79 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2.

[109] A/67/95, annex, sect. I.

[110] A/67/120.

[111] SPLOS/251.

[112] See A/67/87.

*Noting with satisfaction* the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention on 10 December 1982 at Montego Bay, Jamaica, and recognizing the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

*Emphasizing* the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[113]

*Recognizing* the important contribution of sustainable development and management of the resources and uses of the oceans and seas to the achievement of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[114]

*Welcoming* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", as endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

*Noting with satisfaction* that in "The future we want", States recognized that oceans, seas and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are critical to sustaining it, and that international law, as reflected in the Convention, provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources, and stressed the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development, including through their contributions to poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, food security and creation of sustainable livelihoods and decent work, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the impacts of climate change,[115]

*Conscious* that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention, and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

*Reiterating* the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues,

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

*Recalling* that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

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[113] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[114] Resolution 55/2.

[115] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Reiterating its deep concern* at the serious adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems and their physical and biogenic structure, including coral reefs, cold water habitats, hydrothermal vents and seamounts, of certain human activities,

*Emphasizing* the need for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships,

*Expressing deep concern* at the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the physical alteration and destruction of marine habitats that may result from land-based and coastal development activities, in particular those land reclamation activities that are carried out in a manner that has a detrimental impact on the marine environment,

*Reiterating its serious concern* at the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, and emphasizing the urgency of addressing this issue,

*Expressing concern* that climate change continues to increase the severity and incidence of coral bleaching throughout tropical seas and weakens the ability of reefs to withstand ocean acidification, which could have serious and irreversible negative effects on marine organisms, particularly corals, as well as to withstand other pressures, including overfishing and pollution,

*Reiterating its deep concern* at the vulnerability of the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the polar regions, including the Arctic Ocean and the Arctic ice cap, particularly affected by the projected adverse effects of climate change,

*Recognizing* the need for a more integrated and ecosystem-based approach to, further study of and the promotion of measures for enhanced cooperation, coordination and collaboration relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction,

*Recognizing also* that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

*Recognizing further* that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and encouraging further efforts towards electronic charting, which not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection, and noting the entry into force of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,[116] on requirements for ships on international voyages to carry an electronic chart display information system,

*Recognizing* that ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law are critical for saving lives by detecting storm surges and tsunamis and for improving understanding of weather, climate and ecosystems, and reiterating its serious concern at intentional and unintentional damage to such buoys,

*Emphasizing* that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercraft, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

*Noting with concern* the continuing problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

*Recognizing* that fibre-optic submarine cables transmit most of the world's data and communications and, hence, are vitally important to the global economy and the national security of all States, conscious that these cables are susceptible to intentional and accidental damage from shipping and other activities, and that the maintenance, including the repair, of these cables is important, noting that these matters have been brought to the attention of States at various workshops and seminars, and conscious of the need for States to adopt national laws and regulations to protect submarine cables and render their wilful damage or damage by culpable negligence punishable offences,

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[116] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1184, No. 18961.

*Noting* the importance of the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that it is in the broader interest of the international community that coastal States with a continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submit information on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission), and welcoming the submissions to the Commission by a considerable number of States Parties on the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, that the Commission has continued to fulfil its role, including of making recommendations to coastal States, and that the summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available,

*Noting also* that many coastal States Parties have submitted preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, as provided for in the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission and the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (*a*),[117]

*Noting further* that some coastal States may continue to face particular challenges in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission,

*Noting* that financial and technical assistance may be sought by developing countries for activities in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission, including through the voluntary trust fund established by General Assembly resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, as well as other accessible international assistance,

*Recognizing* the importance of the trust funds established by resolution 55/7 in facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission and in fulfilling the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, while noting with appreciation the recent contributions made to them,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the work of the Commission for coastal States and for the international community,

*Recognizing* that practical difficulties can arise when there is a considerable delay between the preparation of submissions and their consideration by the Commission, including in retaining expertise up to and during the consideration of the submissions by the Commission,

*Recognizing also* the significant workload of the Commission in view of the large number of submissions already received and a number of submissions yet to be received, which places additional demands and challenges on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division), and welcoming the decision of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission,[118]

*Noting with concern* the projected timetable of the work of the Commission on the submissions already received by it and those yet to be received, and in this regard noting with appreciation the decision of the Commission during its thirtieth session concerning the arrangements for its sessions and the meetings of its subcommissions, taking into account the decision of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[119]

*Recognizing* the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention expeditiously, efficiently and effectively, and maintain its high level of quality and expertise,

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[117] SPLOS/183.

[118] SPLOS/229.

[119] See CLCS/76.

*Recalling* its decision, in resolutions 57/141 of 12 December 2002 and 58/240 of 23 December 2003, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[120] and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

*Recalling also* its decisions, in paragraphs 202, 203 and 209 of resolution 65/37 A of 7 December 2010, regarding the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations and accountable to the General Assembly,

*Recalling further* that the Division has been designated to provide secretariat support to the Regular Process, including its established institutions,

*Recognizing* the importance and the contribution of the work of the Informal Consultative Process established by General Assembly resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the Assembly,

*Noting* the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33, 65/37 A, 65/37 B of 4 April 2011 and 66/231, and in this context the substantial increase in activities of the Division, in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, its increasing capacity-building activities, the need for enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and the role of the Division in inter-agency coordination and cooperation,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority (the Authority) in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the Part XI Agreement),[121]

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (the Tribunal) in accordance with the Convention,

## I

## Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Reaffirms* its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 66/231, and other relevant resolutions concerning the Convention;[107]

2. *Also reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;

3. *Welcomes* the recent ratification of and accession to the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;[121]

4. *Calls upon* States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Fish Stocks Agreement);[122]

5. *Calls upon* States to harmonize their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;

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[120] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[121] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

[122] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

6. *Calls upon* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention, preferably using the generally accepted and most recent geodetic datums;

7. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention, and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

8. *Acknowledges* the tenth anniversary, in November 2011, of the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,[123] calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Convention, and notes in particular the rules annexed to that Convention, which address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among Parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

## II

## Capacity-building

9. *Emphasizes* that capacity-building is essential to ensure that States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able to fully implement the Convention, benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas and participate fully in global and regional forums on ocean affairs and the law of the sea;

10. *Recalls*, in this regard, that in "The future we want", States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology;[115]

11. *Emphasizes* the need for international cooperation for capacity-building, including cross-sectoral cooperation, at national, regional and global levels, to address, in particular, gaps in capacity-building in ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including marine science;

12. *Calls for* capacity-building initiatives to take into account the needs of developing countries, and calls upon States, international organizations and donor agencies to make efforts to ensure the sustainability of such initiatives;

13. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

14. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

15. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to continue to strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

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[123] Ibid., vol. 2562, No. 45694.

16. *Also calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to strengthen capacity-building activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to promote effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law;

17. *Emphasizes* the need to focus on strengthening South-South cooperation as an additional way to build capacity and as a cooperative mechanism to further enable countries to set their own priorities and needs;

18. *Recognizes* the importance of the work of the International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization as a centre of education and training of government legal advisers, mainly from developing States, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of international law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute;

19. *Also recognizes* the importance of the World Maritime University of the International Maritime Organization as a centre for maritime education and research, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of maritime transportation, policy, administration, management, safety, security and environmental protection, as well as its role in the international exchange and transfer of knowledge, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and other bodies to make voluntary financial contributions to the University;

20. *Welcomes* ongoing activities for capacity-building so as to address maritime security and safety needs and the protection of the marine environment of developing States, and encourages States and international financial institutions to provide additional funding for capacity-building programmes, including for transfer of technology, including through the International Maritime Organization and other competent international organizations;

21. *Recognizes* the considerable need to provide sustained capacity-building assistance, including on financial and technical aspects, by relevant international organizations and donors to developing States, with a view to further strengthening their capacity to take effective measures against the multiple facets of international criminal activities at sea, in line with the relevant international instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[124]

22. *Also recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of and support the implementation of improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution from land-based sources and marine debris;

23. *Further recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, urges States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the trust funds, as referred to in resolutions 55/7, 57/141 and 64/71 of 4 December 2009, established for this purpose, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;

24. *Acknowledges* the importance of capacity-building for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, for the protection of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources;

25. *Recognizes* that promoting the voluntary transfer of technology is an essential aspect of building capacity in marine science;

26. *Encourages* States to use the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-second session, in 2003, and recalls the important role of the secretariat of that Commission in the implementation and promotion of the Criteria and Guidelines;

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[124] Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

27. *Also encourages* States to consider additional opportunities for capacity-building at the regional level;

28. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts of the Division to compile information on capacity-building initiatives, requests the Secretary-General to continue to regularly update such information provided by States, international organizations and donor agencies and include it in his annual report to the General Assembly, invites States, international organizations and donor agencies to submit such information to the Secretary-General for this purpose, and requests the Division to post the information on capacity-building initiatives from the annual report of the Secretary-General on the website of the Division in an easily accessible manner so as to facilitate the matching of capacity-building needs with opportunities;

29. *Calls upon* States to continue to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, multilateral levels, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State, and recalls that coastal States can make requests to the Commission for scientific and technical advice in the preparation of data for their submissions, in accordance with article 3 of annex II to the Convention;

30. *Calls upon* the Division to continue to disseminate information on relevant procedures related to the trust fund established for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to continue its dialogue with potential beneficiaries with a view to providing financial support to developing countries for activities to facilitate their submissions in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure[125] and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission;[126]

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue to support training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation and presentation of their submissions to the Commission;

32. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Division to capacity-building activities at the national and regional levels;

33. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including, in particular, the training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation of their submissions to the Commission, also invites Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and expresses its appreciation to those who have contributed;

34. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to the capacity-building of developing countries and the promotion of the law of the sea made by the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which was established by the General Assembly in 1981 in honour of the first President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and which, relying on its network of 17 host institutions, has awarded to date 28 fellowships to individuals from 25 Member States, welcomes the fact that the twenty-fifth award, in 2012, was made possible thanks to the generous contributions of Member States, and urges Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute generously to the further development of the Fellowship to ensure that it is awarded every year;

35. *Also recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution that the United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme which, relying on its network of more than 40 host institutions, has awarded 90 fellowships to individuals from 58 Member States since 2004, has made to human resources development for developing Member States in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea and related disciplines and the promotion of holistic and cross-sectoral approaches, emphasizing the integration of physical and social sciences and promoting interlinkages among alumni and between their organizations;

36. *Encourages* the competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme and international financial institutions and funds to consider expanding their programmes within their respective

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[125] CLCS/40/Rev.1.

[126] CLCS/11 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and to coordinate their efforts, and recognizes the funding set aside by the Global Environment Facility as well as other funds allocated for projects relating to oceans;

### III

### Meeting of States Parties

37. *Welcomes* the report on the twenty-second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[111] also welcomes the election of 20 members to the Commission,[127] and further welcomes the decisions taken by the twenty-second Meeting;

38. *Recognizes* the work of the Informal Working Group of the Commission facilitated by the Bureau of the Meeting of States Parties on the workload of the Commission, and welcomes the decision taken by the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on this matter;[118]

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the twenty-third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in New York from 10 to 14 June 2013, and to provide full conference services, including documentation, as required, and also requests the Secretary-General to convene a special meeting to elect one member of the Commission from the Group of Eastern European States on 19 December 2012;[128]

### IV

### Commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention

40. *Welcomes* the Declaration on the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted by States Parties to the Convention at their twenty-second Meeting;[129]

41. *Notes with appreciation* that a ceremony to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention was held by the Authority and the Government of Jamaica on 21 July 2012, at the site in Montego Bay where the Convention was originally opened for signature;

42. *Takes note with appreciation* of the activities organized by States, in cooperation with the Division, to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention, including the international conference co-sponsored by the Division and the Republic of Korea at the International Exposition, Yeosu, Republic of Korea, in 2012, and national events organized by States to mark the anniversary in Bangladesh, Belgium, China, Jamaica, Japan, Portugal and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

43. *Notes with appreciation* the activities organized by the Secretary-General to mark the anniversary, in cooperation with States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies;

### V

### Peaceful settlement of disputes

44. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;

45. *Pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

46. *Notes* that States parties to an international agreement related to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and also notes the possibility, provided for in the Statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

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[127] SPLOS/251, paras. 85 and 86.

[128] SPLOS/252.

[129] SPLOS/249.

47. *Encourages* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration, choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

## VI

## The Area

48. *Welcomes* the adoption of the regulations for prospecting and exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the Area[130] and the adoption of the decision by the Council of the Authority to establish an environmental management plan for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone which includes the designation, on a provisional basis, of a network of areas of particular environmental interest and which also gives effect to the precautionary approach,[131] and reiterates the importance of the ongoing elaboration by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, for, inter alia, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area, and for the prevention of damage to the flora and fauna of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

49. *Notes* the increase in the number of contracts with the Authority for exploration for polymetallic nodules and polymetallic sulphides, and also notes the attention being given by the Council to the drafting of a mining code;

50. *Recalls* the relevance of the advisory opinion on the responsibilities and obligations of States sponsoring persons and entities with respect to activities in the Area, issued by the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the Tribunal on 1 February 2011;[132]

51. *Notes* the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment, respectively;

## VII

## Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

52. *Commends* the progress in the work of the Authority;

53. *Also commends* the work of the Tribunal since its establishment;

54. *Appeals* to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States Parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay;

55. *Urges* all States Parties to the Convention to attend the sessions of the Authority and calls upon the Authority to continue to pursue all options, including making concrete recommendations on the issue of dates, in order to improve attendance in Kingston and to ensure global participation, and to that effect takes note with appreciation of the proposed new pattern of meetings;[133]

56. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[134] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[135]

57. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Tribunal's rules and staff regulations in promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and welcomes the actions taken by the Tribunal in observance of those rules and regulations;

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[130] See ISBA/18/C/23; see also ISBA/18/A/11.

[131] ISBA/18/C/22.

[132] ISBA/17/A/9.

[133] ISBA/18/A/12, para. 17; see also ISBA/18/A/2, sect. XXIII.

[134] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, No. 37925.

[135] Ibid., vol. 2214, No. 39357.

## VIII

## The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

58. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 8, of the Convention, information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be submitted by the coastal State to the Commission set up under annex II to the Convention on the basis of equitable geographical representation, that the Commission shall make recommendations to coastal States on matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf, and that the limits of the shelf established by a coastal State on the basis of these recommendations shall be final and binding;

59. *Also recalls* that, in accordance with article 77, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation;

60. *Notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (*a*);

61. *Also notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted to the Secretary-General, pursuant to the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[136] preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission, and notes with satisfaction that seven submissions referred to in preliminary information have already been filed with the Commission;

62. *Further notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission[137] and that it is giving current consideration to a number of submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, and welcomes the decision taken by the Commission to extend the duration of its sessions;

63. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Commission, taking into account the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[138] has compiled lists of websites of organizations, data/information portals and data holders where general information and publicly available scientific and technical data can be accessed that may be relevant to the preparation of submissions, and has made this information available on its website;

64. *Takes note* of the 18 recommendations made by the Commission on the submissions of a number of coastal States, and welcomes the fact that summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available in accordance with part V, paragraph 11.3, of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission;[139]

65. *Notes* that the consideration by the Commission of submissions by coastal States in accordance with article 76 of and annex II to the Convention is without prejudice to the application of other parts of the Convention by States Parties;

66. *Also notes* the considerable number of submissions yet to be considered by the Commission and the demands that this places on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Division, and emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

67. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Commission at its thirtieth session regarding the workload of the Commission, including to extend the duration of its sessions for 2013 to three sessions of seven weeks each, including plenary meetings, and to establish four new subcommissions so that six subcommissions would actively consider submissions;[119]

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[136] SPLOS/183, para. 1 (*a*).

[137] See CLCS/74 and CLCS/76.

[138] SPLOS/183, para. 3.

[139] CLCS/40/Rev.1.

68. *Reiterates* the duty of States under the Convention, whose experts are serving on the Commission, to defray the expenses of the experts they have nominated while in performance of Commission duties, and urges these States to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

69. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures, within overall existing resource levels, to further strengthen the capacity of the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, in order to ensure enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and its subcommissions in their consideration of submissions, as required by paragraph 9 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, in particular its human resources, taking into account the need for simultaneous work on several submissions;

70. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary secretariat services to the Commission in accordance with article 2, paragraph 5, of annex II to the Convention;

71. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate and timely measures to ensure secretariat services for the Commission and its subcommissions for the extended duration of time requested in the decision of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[118]

72. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, consequently, to continue to allocate appropriate and sufficient resources to the Division to provide adequate services and assistance to the Commission in view of the increase in the number of its working weeks;

73. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to the voluntary trust fund also established by that resolution for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission, encourages States to make additional contributions to these funds, and authorizes the use, as appropriate, of the trust fund, and in accordance with the purpose of its terms of reference, to defray the cost of the participation of the Chair of the Commission who is a member of the Commission nominated by a developing country in the Meetings of States Parties, and to defray the cost of the participation of the current Chair of the Commission in the meeting of the General Assembly devoted to the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention, convened on 10 December 2012 in accordance with Assembly resolution 67/5 of 14 November 2012;

74. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third sessions of the Commission, in New York from 21 January to 8 March 2013, from 15 July to 30 August 2013 and from 7 October to 22 November 2013, respectively, with full conference services, including documentation, for the plenary parts of these sessions,[140] as well as any resumed sessions as may be required by the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet these requirements within overall existing resources;

75. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention, including with respect to the participation of coastal States in relevant proceedings concerning their submissions, and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between coastal States and the Commission;

76. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have exchanged views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating the preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission, and encourages States to continue exchanging views;

77. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, to continue supporting workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the need to strengthen capacity-building for developing countries in preparing their submissions;

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[140] From 28 January to 1 February, from 25 February to 1 March, from 12 to 16 August and from 26 to 30 August 2013.

## IX

## Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

78. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, as well as maritime labour, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention and other relevant international instruments aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements, and emphasizes the need for capacity-building for and assistance to developing States;

79. *Recognizes* that the legal regimes governing maritime safety and maritime security may have common and mutually reinforcing objectives that may be interrelated and could benefit from synergies, and encourages States to take this into account in their implementation;

80. *Emphasizes* the need for further efforts to promote a culture of safety and security in the shipping industry and to address the shortage of adequately trained personnel, and urges the establishment of more centres to provide the required education and training;

81. *Also emphasizes* that safety and security measures should be implemented with minimal negative effects on seafarers and fishers, especially in relation to their working conditions, and welcomes the ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization on child labour in fisheries and aquaculture as well as the work that has been conducted on the issue of trafficking in persons and forced labour on fishing vessels by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Labour Organization;

82. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 1 January 2012, with a five-year transitional period until 1 January 2017, of the amendments adopted in Manila on 25 June 2010, otherwise known as the Manila amendments, to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,[141] and to the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers Code, and invites States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to that Convention, as well as the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995;

83. *Also welcomes* the fact that the conditions for the entry into force of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, have been met, invites States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to that Convention, the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185),[142] of the International Labour Organization and to effectively implement those Conventions, and emphasizes the need to provide to States, at their request, technical cooperation and assistance in that regard;

84. *Further welcomes* ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization relating to the safety of fishers and fishing vessels, underlines the urgent need for continued work in that area, and takes note of the approval by the three organizations of the Guidelines to Assist Competent Authorities in the Implementation of Part B of the Code of Safety for Fishermen and Fishing Vessels, the Voluntary Guidelines for the Design, Construction and Equipment of Small Fishing Vessels, and the Safety Recommendations for Decked Fishing Vessels of Less than 12 Metres in Length and Undecked Fishing Vessels;[143]

85. *Encourages* continued cooperation between the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal[144] and the International Maritime Organization on regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships;

86. *Encourages* States to consider becoming parties to the 2010 Protocol to the 1996 International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea;[145]

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[141] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1361, No. 23001.

[142] Ibid., vol. 2304, No. 41069.

[143] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC 89/25/Add.1, annex 16; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document FIPI/R1012(En); International Labour Organization, document GB.316/POL/4(and Corr.), para. 14.

[144] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

[145] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.17/10.

87. *Recalls* that all actions taken to combat threats to maritime security must be in accordance with international law, including the principles embodied in the Charter and the Convention;

88. *Recognizes* the crucial role of international cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels in combating, in accordance with international law, threats to maritime security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats, the enhanced sharing of information among States relevant to the detection, prevention and suppression of such threats, and the prosecution of offenders with due regard to national legislation, and the need for sustained capacity-building to support such objectives;

89. *Notes* that piracy and armed robbery at sea affect a wide range of vessels engaged in maritime activities;

90. *Emphasizes* the importance of promptly reporting incidents to enable accurate information on the scope of the problem of piracy and armed robbery against ships and, in the case of armed robbery against ships, by affected vessels to the coastal State, underlines the importance of effective information-sharing with States potentially affected by incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships, and takes note of the important role of the International Maritime Organization;

91. *Notes with appreciation*, in this regard, the important contribution of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia;

92. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to actively combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

93. *Encourages* States to ensure effective implementation of international law applicable to combating piracy, as reflected in the Convention, calls upon States to take appropriate steps under their national law to facilitate, in accordance with international law, the apprehension and prosecution of those who are alleged to have committed acts of piracy, including the financing or facilitation of such acts, also taking into account other relevant instruments that are consistent with the Convention, and encourages States to cooperate, as appropriate, with a view to developing their national legislation in this regard;

94. *Expresses grave concern* at the threats posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea to the safety and welfare of seafarers and other persons;

95. *Invites* all States, the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant international organizations and agencies to adopt or recommend, as appropriate, measures to protect the interest and welfare of seafarers and fishers who are victims of pirates, after their release from captivity, including their post-incident care and reintegration into society;

96. *Takes note* of the ongoing cooperation between the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Division with respect to the compilation of national legislation on piracy, and notes that copies of national legislation received by the Secretariat have been placed on the website of the Division;

97. *Recognizes* continued national, bilateral and trilateral initiatives as well as regional cooperative mechanisms, in accordance with international law, to address piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery at sea in the Asian region, and calls upon other States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level on combating piracy and armed robbery against ships;

98. *Reiterates its serious concern* regarding continued incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, expresses alarm in particular at the hijacking of vessels, supports the recent efforts to address this problem at the global and regional levels, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 1816 (2008) of 2 June 2008, 1838 (2008) of 7 October 2008, 1846 (2008) of 2 December 2008, 1851 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

1897 (2009) of 30 November 2009, 1918 (2010) of 27 April 2010, 1950 (2010) of 23 November 2010, 1976 (2011) of 11 April 2011, 2015 (2011) of 24 October 2011, 2020 (2011) of 22 November 2011 and 2036 (2012) of 22 February 2012, as well as the statement by the President of the Security Council of 25 August 2010,[146] also notes that the authorization in resolution 1816 (2008) and the provisions in resolutions 1838 (2008), 1846 (2008), 1851 (2008), 1897 (2009), 1950 (2010) and 2020 (2011) apply only to the situation in Somalia and do not affect the rights, obligations or responsibilities of Member States under international law, including any rights or obligations under the Convention, with respect to any other situation, and underscores, in particular, the fact that they are not to be considered as establishing customary international law;

99. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the Secretary-General of 20 January 2012,[147] prepared pursuant to the request of the Security Council in resolution 2015 (2011);

100. *Notes*, in this regard, the compilation of information received from Member States on measures they have taken to criminalize piracy under their domestic law and to support the prosecution of individuals suspected of piracy off the coast of Somalia and imprisonment of convicted pirates, circulated by the Secretary-General to Member States pursuant to paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 2015 (2011);[148]

101. *Also notes* the continued efforts within the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1851 (2008), including the establishment under the Contact Group of Working Group 5 on the financial aspects of Somali piracy to focus on and coordinate efforts to disrupt the pirate enterprise ashore, and commends the contributions of all States in the efforts to fight piracy off the coast of Somalia;

102. *Recognizes* the primary role of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships, acknowledges the importance of a comprehensive and sustainable settlement of the situation in Somalia, and emphasizes the need to address the underlying causes of piracy and to assist Somalia and States in the region in strengthening institutional capacity to fight piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia and to bring to justice those involved in such acts;

103. *Notes* the approval by the International Maritime Organization of the guidelines to assist in the investigation of the crimes of piracy and armed robbery against ships, revised interim guidance to shipowners, ship operators and shipmasters on the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high risk area, revised interim recommendations for flag States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high risk area, revised interim recommendations for port and coastal States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high risk area, interim guidance to private maritime security companies providing privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high risk area, and interim guidance for flag States on measures to prevent and mitigate Somalia-based piracy;

104. *Also notes* the efforts made by the shipping industry to cooperate with the efforts by States regarding piracy off the coast of Somalia, in particular in assisting ships that navigate in that area, and further notes the adoption on 30 November 2011 by the International Maritime Organization of resolution A.1044(27) on piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia;

105. *Recalls* the adoption on 29 January 2009 of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden (Djibouti Code of Conduct) under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, the establishment of the International Maritime Organization Djibouti Code Trust Fund, a multi-donor trust fund initiated by Japan, and the ongoing activities for the implementation of the Code of Conduct;

106. *Urges* States to ensure the full implementation of resolution A.1044(27) on piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia;

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[146] S/PRST/2010/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2010–31 July 2011*.

[147] S/2012/50.

[148] S/2012/177, annex.

107. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[149] notes the entry into force on 28 July 2010 of the 2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[150] and of the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[151] invites States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to those Protocols, and urges States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

108. *Calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,[152] and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

109. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

110. *Emphasizes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the efforts of littoral States, on the enhancement of safety, security and environmental protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and the effective functioning of the Cooperative Mechanism on Safety of Navigation and Environment Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (the Cooperative Mechanism) to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industry and other stakeholders in line with article 43 of the Convention, notes with appreciation the convening of the fifth Cooperation Forum, in Singapore on 24 and 25 September 2012, the fifth Project Coordination Committee Meeting, in Singapore on 28 September 2012, and the eighth and ninth Aids to Navigation Fund Committee Meetings, in Malaysia on 10 April 2012, and 13 and 14 December 2012, respectively, the events being key pillars of the Cooperative Mechanism, also notes with appreciation the important role of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

111. *Recognizes* that some transnational organized criminal activities threaten legitimate uses of the oceans and endanger the lives of people at sea;

112. *Notes* that transnational organized criminal activities are diverse and may be interrelated in some cases and that criminal organizations are adaptive and take advantage of the vulnerabilities of States, in particular coastal and small island developing States in transit areas, and calls upon States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to increase cooperation and coordination at all levels to detect and suppress the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, in accordance with international law;

113. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing international cooperation at all levels to fight transnational organized criminal activities, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, within the scope of the United Nations instruments against illicit drug trafficking, as well as the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms and criminal activities at sea falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[153]

114. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational

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[149] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1678, No. 29004.

[150] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21.

[151] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22.

[152] International Maritime Organization, documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and 34, as well as document MSC 81/25/Add.1, annex 2, resolution MSC.202(81) introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system.

[153] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

Organized Crime,[154] the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[155] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[156] and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

115. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation, the safety of navigation and the rights of transit passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

116. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon the International Maritime Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation to keep such straits safe, secure and environmentally protected and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

117. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits used for international navigation to continue to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships, and welcomes developments in this regard;

118. *Calls upon* States that have accepted the amendments to regulation XI-1/6 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,[157] to implement the Code of International Standards and Recommended Practices for a Safety Investigation into a Marine Casualty or Marine Incident,[158] which took effect on 1 January 2010;

119. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming members of the International Hydrographic Organization, and urges all States to work with that Organization to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, particularly through the production and use of accurate electronic navigational charts, especially in areas used for international navigation, in ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

120. *Encourages* States to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004;

121. *Notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;

122. *Acknowledges*, in the context of paragraph 121 above, the potential environmental and economic impacts of maritime incidents and accidents on coastal States, in particular those related to the transport of radioactive materials, and emphasizes the importance of effective liability regimes in that regard;

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[154] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[155] Ibid., vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[156] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[157] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.257(84).

[158] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 1, resolution MSC.255(84).

123. *Encourages* States to draw up plans and to establish procedures to implement the Guidelines on Places of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance adopted by the International Maritime Organization on 5 December 2003;[159]

124. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007;[160]

125. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

126. *Calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments[161] to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue[162] and to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea[163] relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;[164]

127. *Recognizes* that all States must fulfil their search and rescue responsibilities in accordance with international law, including the Convention, and the ongoing need for the International Maritime Organization and other relevant organizations to assist, in particular, developing States both to increase their search and rescue capabilities, including through the establishment of additional rescue coordination centres and regional sub-centres, and to take effective action to address, to the extent feasible, the issue of unseaworthy ships and small craft within their national jurisdiction, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of cooperation for these purposes, including within the framework of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979;[165]

128. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization in relation to disembarkation of persons rescued at sea, and notes in this regard the need to implement all relevant international instruments and the importance of cooperation among States as provided for in those instruments;

129. *Invites* States to implement the Revised Guidelines on the Prevention of Access by Stowaways and the Allocation of Responsibilities to Seek the Successful Resolution of Stowaway Cases adopted by the International Maritime Organization on 2 December 2010;[166]

130. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate in developing comprehensive approaches to international migration and development, including through dialogue on all their aspects;

131. *Also calls upon* States to take measures to protect fibre-optic submarine cables and to fully address issues relating to these cables, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

132. *Encourages* greater dialogue and cooperation among States and the relevant regional and global organizations through workshops and seminars on the protection and maintenance of fibre-optic submarine cables to promote the security of such critical communications infrastructure;

133. *Encourages* the adoption by States of laws and regulations addressing the breaking or injury of submarine cables or pipelines beneath the high seas done wilfully or through culpable negligence by a ship flying its flag or by a person subject to its jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

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[159] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.949(23).

[160] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.16/19.

[161] The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, and the International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

[162] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

[163] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).

[164] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.2, annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).

[165] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1405, No. 23489.

[166] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC 88/26/Add.1, annex 6, resolution MSC.312(88).

134. *Affirms* the importance of maintenance, including the repair, of submarine cables, undertaken in conformity with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

135. *Reaffirms* that flag, port and coastal States all bear responsibility for ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement of international instruments relating to maritime security and safety, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention, and that flag States have primary responsibility that requires further strengthening, including through increased transparency of ownership of vessels;

136. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law, in particular the Convention, and, until such action is taken, to consider declining the granting of the right to fly their flag to new vessels, suspending their registry or not opening a registry, and calls upon flag and port States to take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

137. *Recognizes* that international shipping rules and standards adopted by the International Maritime Organization in respect of maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution, complemented by best practices of the shipping industry, have led to a significant reduction in maritime accidents and pollution incidents, encourages all States to participate in the Voluntary International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme,[167] and notes the decision of the International Maritime Organization on a phased-in introduction of the Audit Scheme as an institutionalized process;[168]

138. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to develop a mandatory code for ships operating in polar waters (the Polar Code), and encourages States and competent international organizations and bodies to support continued efforts to finalize the Polar Code within the agreed framework, with an entry into force as soon as possible;

139. *Recognizes* that maritime safety can also be improved through effective port State control, the strengthening of regional arrangements and increased coordination and cooperation among them, and increased information-sharing, including among safety and security sectors;

140. *Encourages* flag States to take appropriate measures sufficient to achieve or maintain recognition by intergovernmental arrangements that recognize satisfactory flag State performance, including, as appropriate, satisfactory port State control examination results on a sustained basis, with a view to improving quality shipping and furthering flag State implementation of relevant instruments under the International Maritime Organization as well as relevant goals and objectives of the present resolution;

## X

## Marine environment and marine resources

141. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

142. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States noted with concern that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, from a number of marine and land-based sources, including shipping and land run-off, and that States committed to take action to reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems, including through the effective implementation of relevant conventions adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization, and the follow-up of relevant initiatives such as the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[169] as

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[167] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.946(23).

[168] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.1018(26).

[169] See A/51/116, annex II.

well as the adoption of coordinated strategies to this end, and that they further committed to take action, by 2025, based on collected scientific data, to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

143. *Notes* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including its findings on the acidification of oceans, and in this regard encourages States and competent international organizations and other relevant institutions, individually and in cooperation, to urgently pursue further research on ocean acidification, especially programmes of observation and measurement, noting in particular paragraph 4 of decision IX/20 adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008,[170] and the continued work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and to increase national, regional and global efforts to address levels of ocean acidity and the negative impact of such acidity on vulnerable marine ecosystems, particularly coral reefs;

144. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States called for support for initiatives that address ocean acidification and the impacts of climate change on marine and coastal ecosystems and resources and, in this regard, reiterated the need to work collectively to prevent further ocean acidification, as well as to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems and of the communities whose livelihoods depend on them, and to support marine scientific research, monitoring and observation of ocean acidification and particularly vulnerable ecosystems, including through enhanced international cooperation in this regard;

145. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the establishment of the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre at the International Atomic Energy Agency Environment Laboratories in Monaco;

146. *Encourages* States, individually or in collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to enhance their scientific activity to better understand the effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity and develop ways and means of adaptation, taking into account, as appropriate, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches;

147. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, including the dumping of wastes and other matter, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for preparedness for, response to and cooperation on pollution incidents and that include provisions on liability and compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with international law, including the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

148. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States noted the significant threat that alien invasive species pose to marine ecosystems and resources and committed to implement measures to prevent the introduction and manage the adverse environmental impacts of alien invasive species, including, as appropriate, those adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization;

149. *Encourages* States, directly or through competent international organizations, to consider the further development and application, as appropriate and consistent with international law, including the Convention, of environmental impact assessment processes covering planned activities under their jurisdiction or control that may cause substantial pollution of or significant and harmful changes to the marine environment, and also encourages the communication of the reports of the results of such assessments to the competent international organizations in accordance with the Convention;

150. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to regional seas conventions addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

151. *Encourages* States, in accordance with international law, including the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

152. *Recognizes* the importance of improving understanding of the impact of climate change on oceans and seas, and recalls that in "The future we want", States noted that sea-level rise and coastal erosion are serious threats

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[170] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

for many coastal regions and islands, particularly in developing countries and, in this regard, called upon the international community to enhance its efforts to address these challenges;

153. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme relating to marine debris carried out in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, and encourages States to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss;

154. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national and, as appropriate, regional strategies dealing with waste management in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives to address this issue, including the development of cost-recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and support for measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from any source, including land-based sources, such as community-based coastal and waterway clean-up and monitoring activities, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to identify potential sources and coastal and oceanic locations where marine debris aggregates and to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris;

155. *Notes* the work of the International Maritime Organization to prevent pollution by garbage from ships, and welcomes the adoption of amendments to annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, on the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships, as well as related 2012 Guidelines for the Implementation of annex V;[171]

156. *Also notes* the work of the International Maritime Organization to prevent pollution by sewage from ships, welcomes the adoption of amendments to annex IV to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, on the possible establishment of special areas for the prevention of such pollution, and in this regard notes the designation of the Baltic Sea as the first Special Area under annex IV;[172]

157. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (Annex VI-Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto;

158. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Protocol), and furthermore to ratify or accede to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,[173] thereby facilitating its early entry into force;

159. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization and the resolution on International Maritime Organization policies and practices related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships;[174]

160. *Urges* States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in port waste reception facilities in accordance with the action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities developed by the International Maritime Organization;

161. *Notes*, in this regard, the adoption of amendments to annexes I, II, IV, V and VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as amended by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, on regional arrangements for port reception facilities, as well as the 2012 Guidelines for the Development of a Regional Reception Facilities Plan;[175]

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[171] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24, annex 13, resolution MEPC.201(62) and document MEPC 63/23/Add.1, annex 24, resolution MEPC.219(63).

[172] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24, annex 12, resolution MEPC.200(62).

[173] International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.

[174] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.963(23).

[175] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 63/23/Add.1, annex 20, resolution MEPC.216(63); annex 21, resolution MEPC.217(63); and annex 26, resolution MEPC.221(63).

162. *Recognizes* that most of the pollution load of the oceans emanates from land-based activities and affects the most productive areas of the marine environment, and calls upon States, as a matter of priority, to implement the Global Programme of Action and to take all appropriate measures to fulfil the commitments of the international community embodied in the Manila Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;[176]

163. *Expresses its concern* regarding the spreading of hypoxic dead zones in oceans as a result of eutrophication fuelled by riverine run-off of fertilizers, sewage outfall and reactive nitrogen resulting from the burning of fossil fuels and resulting in serious consequences for ecosystem functioning, and calls upon States to enhance their efforts to reduce eutrophication and, to this effect, to continue to cooperate within the framework of relevant international organizations, in particular the Global Programme of Action;

164. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that urban and coastal development projects and related land-reclamation activities are carried out in a responsible manner that protects the marine habitat and environment and mitigates the negative consequences of such activities;

165. *Notes* the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare a global, legally binding instrument on mercury, held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 27 June to 2 July 2012, pursuant to the agreement of the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum;[177]

166. *Welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between fresh water, the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[114] and of the time-bound targets in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[120] in particular the target on sanitation, and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[178]

167. *Recalls* the resolution of the thirtieth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Convention) and the third Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 27 to 31 October 2008, on the regulation of ocean fertilization,[179] in which the Contracting Parties agreed, inter alia, that the scope of the London Convention and Protocol includes ocean fertilization activities and that, given the present state of knowledge, ocean fertilization activities other than for legitimate scientific research should not be allowed, and that scientific research proposals should be assessed on a case-by-case basis using an assessment framework to be developed by the scientific groups under the London Convention and Protocol, and also agreed that, to this end, such other activities should be considered as contrary to the aims of the London Convention and Protocol and should not currently qualify for any exemption from the definition of dumping in article III, paragraph 1 (*b*), of the London Convention and article 1, paragraph 4.2, of the London Protocol;

168. *Also recalls* the resolution of the thirty-second Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Convention and the fifth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 11 to 15 October 2010, on the Assessment Framework for Scientific Research Involving Ocean Fertilization;[180]

169. *Further recalls* the holding of the thirty-fourth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Convention and the seventh Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol from 29 October to 2 November 2012, and the statement of Contracting Parties that they will continue to work towards a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism for ocean fertilization activities and other activities that fall within the scope of the London Convention and the London Protocol and have the potential to cause harm to the marine environment;[180]

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[176] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP(DEPI)/GPA/IGR.3/6, annex.

[177] See UNEP/GC.25/17, annex I, decision 25/5.

[178] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[179] International Maritime Organization, document LC 30/16, annex 6, resolution LC-LP.1 (2008).

[180] International Maritime Organization, document LC 32/15, annex 5, resolution LC-LP.2 (2010).

170. *Recalls* decision IX/16 C adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[170] in which the Conference of the Parties, inter alia, bearing in mind the ongoing scientific and legal analysis occurring under the auspices of the London Convention and Protocol requested parties and urged other Governments, in accordance with the precautionary approach, to ensure that ocean fertilization activities were not carried out until there was an adequate scientific basis on which to justify such activities, including an assessment of associated risks, and that a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism was in place for those activities, with the exception of small-scale scientific research studies within coastal waters, and stated that such studies should be authorized only if justified by the need to gather specific scientific data, should be subject to a thorough prior assessment of the potential impacts of the research studies on the marine environment, should be strictly controlled and should not be used for generating and selling carbon offsets or for any other commercial purposes, and takes note of decision X/29, adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010,[181] in which the Conference of the Parties requested parties to implement decision IX/16 C;

171. *Also recalls* that in "The future we want", States stressed their concern about the potential environmental impacts of ocean fertilization, recalled in this regard the decisions related to ocean fertilization adopted by the relevant intergovernmental bodies, and resolved to continue addressing ocean fertilization with utmost caution, consistent with the precautionary approach;

172. *Reaffirms* paragraph 119 of resolution 61/222 of 20 December 2006 regarding ecosystem approaches and oceans, including the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach, and in this regard:

(*a*) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management actions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(*b*) Also notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and conserve marine biodiversity;

(*c*) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity[182] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010, and in this context encourages States to enhance their efforts towards applying such an approach;

(*d*) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

173. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States committed to protect, and restore, the health, productivity and resilience of oceans and marine ecosystems, to maintain their biodiversity, enabling their conservation and sustainable use for present and future generations, and to effectively apply an ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach in the management, in accordance with international law, of activities having an impact on the marine environment, to deliver on all three dimensions of sustainable development;

174. *Encourages* competent organizations and bodies that have not yet done so to incorporate an ecosystem approach into their mandates, as appropriate, in order to address impacts on marine ecosystems;

175. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with and assistance to developing States, in particular least developed countries

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[181] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

[182] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

176. *Notes* the information compiled by the Secretariat[183] in relation to the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans, as provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, and urges them to provide information for the annual report of the Secretary-General and for incorporation on the website of the Division;

177. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009, to facilitate its early entry into force;[184]

178. *Takes note* of the role of the Basel Convention[144] in protecting the marine environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes;

179. *Notes with concern* the potential for serious environmental consequences resulting from oil spill incidents, urges States, consistent with international law, to cooperate, directly or through competent international organizations, and share best practices, in the fields of protection of the marine environment, human health and safety, prevention, emergency response and mitigation, and in this regard encourages the undertaking of and collaboration on scientific research, including marine scientific research, to better understand the consequences of marine oil spills;

## XI

## Marine biodiversity

180. *Reaffirms* its central role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, notes the work of States and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies on those issues, and invites them to contribute to its consideration of these issues within the areas of their respective competence;

181. *Welcomes* the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, convened in New York from 7 to 11 May 2012, in accordance with paragraph 168 of resolution 66/231, within the process initiated by the General Assembly in resolution 66/231, with a view to ensuring that the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction effectively addresses those issues by identifying gaps and ways forward, including through the implementation of existing instruments and the possible development of a multilateral agreement under the Convention, takes note of the exchange of views at that meeting and endorses its recommendations,[185] and recalls that in "The future we want", States committed to address, on an urgent basis, building on the work of the Working Group and before the end of the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, the issue of the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, including by taking a decision on the development of an international instrument under the Convention;

182. *Decides* that some of the aspects discussed at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, as reflected in the summary of discussions of the Co-Chairs, will be further addressed in intersessional workshops that will take place in 2013, and requests the Secretary-General to convene, within existing resources, two two-day intersessional workshops before the next meeting of the Working Group, on 2 and 3 and 6 and 7 May 2013, on the topics and in accordance with the modalities set out in the terms of reference as agreed by the Working Group and annexed to the present resolution, with a view to improving understanding of the issues and clarifying key questions as an input to the work of the Working Group;

183. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, at its next meeting, to continue to consider, together and as a whole, all issues under its mandate, taking into account the discussions at its meeting in 2012, as

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[183] A/63/342.

[184] See International Maritime Organization, document SR/CONF/45.

[185] A/67/95, annex.

well as the input of the intersessional workshops to its work, and provide recommendations to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session to make progress on ways forward to fulfil the mandate provided for in paragraph 167 of resolution 66/231, in the light of paragraph 162 of "The future we want" and paragraph 181 of the present resolution;

184. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, with full conference services, a meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, to take place from 19 to 23 August 2013, to provide recommendations to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet the requirement for full conference services within existing resources;

185. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to use existing trust funds through earmarked contributions to facilitate the participation of panellists and representatives from developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in the intersessional workshops, and invites Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to these trust funds and to make other contributions to the intersessional workshops referred to in paragraph 182 of the present resolution;

186. *Recognizes* the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources and their value in terms of the benefits, goods and services they can provide;

187. *Also recognizes* the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

188. *Encourages* States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and partnerships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way to support, promote and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research, taking into account, in particular, the need to create greater taxonomic capabilities;

189. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity[186] and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,[187] and, while reiterating the central role of the General Assembly relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, notes with appreciation the complementary technical and scientific work done by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

190. *Reaffirms* the need for States, individually or through competent international organizations, to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and the precautionary approach and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

191. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take further action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

192. *Calls upon* States to strengthen, in a manner consistent with international law, in particular the Convention, the conservation and management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and national policies in relation to marine protected areas;

193. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States reaffirmed the importance of area-based conservation measures, including marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on best available scientific information, as a tool for conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, and noted decision X/2 of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, that by 2020, 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures;[181]

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[186] See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

[187] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

194. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to further progress towards the establishment of marine protected areas, including representative networks, and calls upon States to further consider options to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas, consistent with international law and on the basis of the best available scientific information;

195. *Reaffirms* the need for States to continue and intensify their efforts, directly and through competent international organizations, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on the best scientific information available;

196. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification of marine areas that may require protection, in the light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, such as ecosystem approaches and the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on scientific information, including representative networks;[120]

197. *Recalls* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its ninth meeting, adopted scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats and scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish a representative network of marine protected areas, including in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats,[188] takes note of the ongoing work of the Convention on Biological Diversity in this regard, and also recalls that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed guidance for the identification of vulnerable marine ecosystems through the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas;

198. *Acknowledges* the Micronesia Challenge, the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project, the Caribbean Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative, which in particular seek to create and link domestic marine protected areas to better facilitate ecosystem approaches, and reaffirms the need for further international cooperation, coordination and collaboration in support of such initiatives;

199. *Takes note* of the efforts of the Sargasso Sea Alliance, led by the Government of Bermuda, to raise awareness of the ecological significance of the Sargasso Sea;

200. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, notes the International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting, held in Cairns, Australia, from 16 to 19 July 2012, and supports the elaborated programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity;

201. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States recognized the significant economic, social and environmental contributions of coral reefs, in particular to islands and other coastal States, as well as the significant vulnerability of coral reefs and mangroves to impacts, including from climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, destructive fishing practices and pollution, and supported international cooperation with a view to conserving coral reef and mangrove ecosystems and realizing their social, economic and environmental benefits, as well as facilitating technical collaboration and voluntary information-sharing;

202. *Encourages* States and relevant international institutions to improve efforts to address coral bleaching by, inter alia, improving monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events, supporting and strengthening action taken during such events and improving strategies to manage reefs to support their natural resilience and enhance their ability to withstand other pressures, including ocean acidification;

203. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

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[188] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/20, annexes I and II.

204. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

205. *Notes* that ocean noise is a potential threat to living marine resources, affirms the importance of sound scientific studies in addressing this matter, encourages further research, studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on living marine resources, and requests the Division to continue to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and intergovernmental organizations pursuant to paragraph 107 of resolution 61/222 and, as appropriate, to make them, or references and links to them, available on its website;

## XII

## Marine science

206. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with competent international organizations and bodies, to continue to strive to improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

207. *Encourages*, in that regard, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the Endowment Fund of the International Seabed Authority in order to promote the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the international seabed area by supporting the participation of qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries in relevant programmes, initiatives and activities;

208. *Invites* all relevant organizations, funds, programmes and bodies within the United Nations system, in consultation with interested States, to coordinate relevant activities with regional and national marine scientific and technological centres in small island developing States, as appropriate, to ensure the more effective achievement of their objectives in accordance with relevant United Nations small island developing States development programmes and strategies;

209. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, with the advice of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea, on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention;

210. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Advisory Body of Experts, including its work in cooperation with the Division, on the practice of member States related to marine scientific research and transfer of marine technology within the framework of the Convention, and welcomes the decision by the forty-fifth session of the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, held in Paris from 26 to 28 June 2012, that the Advisory Body will continue its work focused on priorities as tasked by Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission governing bodies in line with the terms of reference, mobilizing extrabudgetary resources when necessary;

211. *Recalls* the issuance of the revised publication entitled *Marine Scientific Research: A guide to the implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* in December 2010, and requests the Secretariat to continue to make efforts to publish the guide in all official languages of the United Nations;

212. *Notes* the contribution of the Census of Marine Life to marine biodiversity research, including through its report entitled "First Census of Marine Life 2010: Highlights of a Decade of Discovery";

213. *Welcomes* the increasing attention being focused on oceans as a potential source of renewable energy, and notes in this regard the summary of discussions of the Informal Consultative Process at its thirteenth meeting;[110]

214. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans-atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observing System, sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council for Science, particularly considering their role in monitoring and forecasting climate change and variability and in the establishment and operation of tsunami warning systems;

215. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment of regional and national tsunami warning and mitigation systems, welcomes the continued collaboration of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations in this effort, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters;

216. *Stresses* the need for continued efforts in developing mitigation and preparedness measures for natural disasters, particularly following tsunami events caused by earthquakes, such as the 11 March 2011 event in Japan;

217. *Urges* States to take necessary action and to cooperate in relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to address damage to ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law, including through education and outreach about the importance and purpose of these buoys, and by strengthening these buoys against such damage, and increasing reporting of such damage;

## XIII

## Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

218. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the regular scientific assessment of the state of the marine environment in order to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking;

219. *Welcomes* the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects, convened in New York from 23 to 27 April 2012, in accordance with paragraph 208 of resolution 66/231;

220. *Endorses* the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its third meeting;[112]

221. *Reaffirms* the principles guiding the Regular Process and the objective and scope of its first cycle (2010–2014) as agreed upon at the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in 2009;[189]

222. *Adopts* the outline for the first global integrated marine assessment of the Regular Process, and the terms of reference and working methods for the Group of Experts of the Regular Process;[112]

223. *Urges* the Group of Experts to finalize the guidance for contributors as soon as possible and, subject to the approval of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole or its Bureau, to enable the pool of experts to start work on the preparation of the first global integrated marine assessment as soon as possible;

224. *Requests* the members of the Group of Experts, who have served in the Group of Experts during the first phase of the first assessment cycle pursuant to paragraph 209 of resolution 65/37 A, to continue serving in the Group of Experts for the second phase of the first assessment cycle;

225. *Welcomes* the development and operation of the website of the Regular Process, under the auspices of the United Nations, addressing the communication requirements of the Regular Process and facilitating the use of appropriate data handling and information schemes for the work of the Group of Experts and the pool of experts;

226. *Takes note* of the revised draft timetable for the first global integrated marine assessment, the summaries of the workshops held in Santiago from 13 to 15 September 2011, in Sanya, China, from 21 to 23 February 2012,[112] and in Brussels, from 27 to 29 June 2012,[190] and the report on the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments;[112]

227. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments to the attention of Member States, heads of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations

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[189] See A/64/347, annex.

[190] A/67/679, annex.

and other relevant intergovernmental organizations engaged in activities relating to capacity-building for assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, as well as funding institutions, and invite their contribution to the preliminary inventory on existing opportunities and arrangements for capacity-building for assessments;

228. *Takes note* of the need to identify capacity-building in the context of the Regular Process, and recommends that the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole further consider an approach on how to contribute to the promotion and facilitation of capacity-building through international cooperation, making full use of existing opportunities and arrangements for capacity-building;

229. *Welcomes* the appointment of the members of the bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, namely, Argentina, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Ecuador, Estonia, Ghana, Greece, Kenya, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America;

230. *Recommends* that workshops be organized at the earliest possible opportunity in order to inform the first cycle of the Regular Process, welcomes the holding of the workshops in Sanya, in Brussels, and in Miami, United States of America, from 13 to 15 November 2012, invites other States to host such workshops, and in this regard notes with appreciation the offer made by Mozambique to host a workshop for the Western Indian Ocean on 6 and 7 December 2012, and the offer made by Australia to host a workshop for the South-West Pacific from 25 to 27 February 2013;

231. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole from 22 to 26 April 2013 with a view to enabling the first cycle of the first global integrated marine assessment to proceed, and to provide recommendations to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

232. *Recalls* that the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations, is accountable to the General Assembly and is an intergovernmental process guided by international law, including the Convention and other applicable international instruments, and takes into account relevant Assembly resolutions;

233. *Emphasizes* that the second phase of the first cycle of the Regular Process will start on 1 January 2013 and that the deadline for the first integrated assessment is 2014;

234. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States expressed their support for the Regular Process, looked forward to the completion of its first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment by 2014 and its subsequent consideration by the General Assembly, and encouraged consideration by States of the assessment findings at appropriate levels;

235. *Requests* the secretariat of the Regular Process to send the first draft of the first global integrated marine assessment to Member States for comments from June to August 2014, and decides that the Group of Experts shall revise the assessment in the light of the comments received and that, once revised, the draft shall be presented to the bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, together with the comments received, and that, with the approval of the bureau, the assessment shall be transmitted for consideration by the Working Group and for final approval by the General Assembly in 2015;

236. *Notes with appreciation* the nominations received to date, urges States to continue to appoint individuals to the pool of experts of the Regular Process, through the regional groups, in accordance with the criteria for the appointment of experts, to support the work of the Group of Experts in the preparation of the first global integrated marine assessment, requests the secretariat, in consultation with the bureau, to send invitations to Member States to appoint experts, and requests the members of the bureau to engage States in their regional groups and encourage the nomination of individuals to the pool of experts as soon as possible;

237. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other competent United Nations specialized agencies, as appropriate, to continue to provide technical and scientific support to the Regular Process;

238. *Requests* the secretariat of the Regular Process to convene meetings of the Group of Experts in accordance with the revised draft timetable for the first global integrated marine assessment, subject to the availability of resources;

239. *Notes with appreciation* the support provided by the Division to the Regular Process, and also notes with appreciation the technical and logistical support of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

240. *Notes* the recommendation made by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole,[112] and decides to continue its consideration of any need to strengthen the capacity of the Division, as the secretariat of the Regular Process;

241. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution made to the voluntary trust fund for the purpose of supporting the operations of the first five-year cycle of the Regular Process, expresses its serious concern regarding the limited resources available in the trust fund, and urges Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the fund established pursuant to paragraph 183 of resolution 64/71 and to make other contributions to the Regular Process;

242. *Invites* States and the agencies referred to in paragraph 213 of resolution 66/231 to make every effort to respond promptly to communications from the secretariat of the Regular Process and the Group of Experts;

## XIV

## Regional cooperation

243. *Notes* that there have been a number of initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention, also notes in that context the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, notes once again the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;

244. *Notes with appreciation* efforts at the regional level to further the implementation of the Convention and respond, including through capacity-building, to issues related to maritime safety and security, the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity;

245. *Notes* the convening in 2014 of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and recognizes the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States, including challenges relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources and the preservation of the marine environment;

246. *Invites* States and international organizations to enhance their cooperation to better protect the marine environment, and in this respect welcomes the memorandum of understanding for enhanced cooperation, concluded between the Commission for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic, the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, the International Seabed Authority and the International Maritime Organization;

247. *Recognizes* the results of the International Polar Year, 2007–2008, with particular emphasis on new knowledge about the linkages between environmental change in the polar regions and global climate systems, encourages States and scientific communities to strengthen their cooperation in this respect, and notes the holding of the International Polar Year "From Knowledge to Action" Conference, in Montreal, Canada, from 22 to 27 April 2012;

248. *Welcomes* regional cooperation, and in this regard notes the Pacific Oceanscape Framework as an initiative to enhance cooperation among coastal States in the Pacific island region to foster marine conservation and sustainable development;

249. *Notes with appreciation* the various cooperative efforts displayed by States at the regional and subregional levels, and in this regard welcomes initiatives such as the Integrated Assessment and Management of the Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem;

250. *Acknowledges* relevant cooperation among the members of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic;

251. *Also acknowledges* the adoption of the "Galapagos commitment for the twenty-first century", on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the establishment of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, as a renewed commitment to regional cooperation among its member States, to respond to their common new and emerging challenges related to oceans and the law of the sea;

## XV

## Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

252. *Welcomes* the report of the Co-Chairs on the work of the Informal Consultative Process at its thirteenth meeting, which focused on marine renewable energies;[110]

253. *Recognizes* the role of the Informal Consultative Process as a unique forum for comprehensive discussions on issues related to oceans and the law of the sea, consistent with the framework provided by the Convention and chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[113] and that the perspective of the three pillars of sustainable development should be further enhanced in the examination of the selected topics;

254. *Welcomes* the work of the Informal Consultative Process and its contribution to improving coordination and cooperation between States and strengthening the annual debate of the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea by effectively drawing attention to key issues and current trends;

255. *Also welcomes* efforts to improve and focus the work of the Informal Consultative Process, and in that respect recognizes the primary role of the Informal Consultative Process in integrating knowledge, the exchange of opinions among multiple stakeholders and coordination among competent agencies, and enhancing awareness of topics, including emerging issues, while promoting the three pillars of sustainable development, and recommends that the Informal Consultative Process devise a transparent, objective and inclusive process for the selection of topics and panellists so as to facilitate the work of the General Assembly during informal consultations concerning the annual resolution on oceans and the law of the sea;

256. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Informal Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the Co-Chairs to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Informal Consultative Process;

257. *Decides* to continue the Informal Consultative Process for the next two years, in accordance with resolution 54/33, with a further review of its effectiveness and utility by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

258. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, the fourteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in New York from 17 to 20 June 2013, to provide it with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate;

259. *Expresses its continued serious concern* regarding the lack of resources available in the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process, and urges States to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

260. *Decides* that those representatives from developing countries who are invited by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Governments, to make presentations during the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process shall receive priority consideration in the disbursement of funds from the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 in order to cover the costs of their travel, and shall also be eligible to receive daily subsistence allowance subject to the availability of funds after the travel costs of all other eligible representatives from those countries mentioned in paragraph 259 above have been covered;

261. *Also decides* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, the Informal Consultative Process shall focus its discussions at its fourteenth meeting on the impacts of ocean acidification on the marine environment;

## XVI

## Coordination and cooperation

262. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

263. *Encourages* bodies established by the Convention to strengthen coordination and cooperation, as appropriate, in fulfilling their respective mandates;

264. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

265. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including, where appropriate, through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

266. *Notes* the Oceans Compact initiative of the Secretary-General, and its goal of "Healthy oceans for prosperity", and requests the Secretary-General to undertake open and regular consultations with Member States on all aspects of that initiative;

267. *Also notes* the review of UN-Oceans by the Joint Inspection Unit,[191] decides that the draft terms of reference for its work submitted by UN-Oceans to the General Assembly will be considered by the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session with a view to reviewing the mandate of UN-Oceans and approving the terms of reference, taking into account the need to strengthen the central role of the Division and the need to enhance transparency and reporting of the activities of UN-Oceans to Member States, requests the Secretary-General, to that end, to bring the comments submitted by Member States to the attention of UN-Oceans, and requests UN-Oceans to draft revised draft terms of reference for its work for consideration and approval by the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

## XVII

## Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

268. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual report on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

269. *Notes with satisfaction* the fourth observance by the United Nations of World Oceans Day on 8 June 2012, recognizes with appreciation the efforts deployed by the Division in organizing its celebration, and invites the Division to continue to promote and facilitate international cooperation on the law of the sea and ocean affairs in the context of the future observance of World Oceans Day, as well as through its participation in other events;

270. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him in the Convention and by the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

271. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication activities of the Division, in particular through the publication of *The Law of the Sea: A Select Bibliography* and the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*;

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[191] See A/67/400.

## XVIII

### Sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly

272. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and to make the section of the report related to the topic that is the focus of the fourteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process available at least six weeks in advance of the meeting of the Informal Consultative Process;

273. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual report of the Secretary-General, which integrates information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitutes the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

274. *Notes* that the report referred to in paragraph 272 above will also be submitted to States Parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

275. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea, decides that the period of the informal consultations on that resolution should not exceed a maximum of two weeks in total and that the consultations should be scheduled in such a way that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report referred to in paragraph 272 above, and invites States to submit text proposals for inclusion in the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations at the earliest possible date;

276. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

## Annex

### Terms of reference for the intersessional workshops

#### Purpose

1. As decided by the General Assembly in paragraph 167 of its resolution 66/231, an intersessional workshop process will be initiated aimed at improving understanding of the issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and clarifying key questions as an input to the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction.

2. Pursuant to that decision, two two-day workshops will be convened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters in the first half of 2013, from within existing resources.

3. These terms of reference are intended to clarify how the intersessional workshops will be organized.

#### Chairs

4. The two workshops will be chaired by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group.

#### Participation

5. The workshops will be open to all States Members of the United Nations, States members of the specialized agencies, all parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, entities that have received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly pursuant to its relevant resolutions, competent specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, other competent intergovernmental organizations, and relevant non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, in accordance with the established practice of the United Nations.

### Format

6. The workshops will be organized in panels focusing on the relevant aspects of the selected topics outlined below.

7. Panel presentations will be delivered by experts recognized in their field, who shall serve in their personal expert capacities. Experts will be selected having due regard to the need to ensure equitable geographical representation as well as a balanced representation of all relevant areas of expertise to cover the subjects of the workshops. The selection of the panellists will be conducted by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Member States.

### Topics

8. The workshops will address the following topics for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction:

(*a*) Marine genetic resources, including:

- Meaning and scope
- Extent and types of research, uses and applications
- Technological, environmental, social and economic aspects
- Access-related issues
- Types of benefits and benefit-sharing
- Intellectual property rights issues
- Global and regional regimes on genetic resources, experiences and best practices
- Impacts on and challenges to marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction
- Exchange of information on research programmes regarding marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction

(*b*) Conservation and management tools, including area-based management and environmental impact assessments, including:

- Types of area-based management tools
- Key ecosystem functions and processes in areas beyond national jurisdiction
- Assessments of sectoral and cumulative impacts
- Technological, environmental, social and economic aspects
- Existing regimes, experiences and best practices
- New and emerging uses of and experimental activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction
- Impacts on and challenges to marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction
- Exchange of information on research programmes regarding marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The workshops will also consider issues related to international cooperation and coordination, as well as capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology.

### Output

9. The output of the workshops will consist of a summary of proceedings prepared by the Co-Chairs for transmittal as an input to the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group.

10. An electronic copy of the summary, presentations and additional materials provided by the experts will be posted on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

## RESOLUTION 67/79

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.22 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, Greece, Honduras, Iceland, Madagascar, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Samoa, Slovenia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United States of America

### 67/79. Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its annual resolutions on sustainable fisheries, including resolution 66/68 of 6 December 2011, and other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),[192] and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement),[193]

*Noting with appreciation* the activities organized by the Secretary-General to mark the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention, in cooperation with States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies, and welcoming the Declaration on the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted by States Parties to the Convention at their twenty-second Meeting,[194]

*Welcoming* the ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement and the fact that a growing number of States, entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have taken measures, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, in order to improve their management regimes,

*Welcoming also* the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, and recognizing in particular the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Code) and other related instruments, including the international plans of action, which set out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices for conservation of fisheries resources and the management and development of fisheries, as well as the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,

*Welcoming further* the outcomes, including the decisions and recommendations, of the thirtieth session of the Committee on Fisheries, held in Rome from 9 to 13 July 2012,[195]

*Noting with concern* that effective management of marine capture fisheries has been made difficult in some areas by unreliable information and data caused by, inter alia, unreported and misreported fish catch and fishing effort and that this lack of accurate data contributes to overfishing in some areas,

*Recognizing* the significant contribution of sustainable fisheries to food security, income, wealth and poverty alleviation for present and future generations,

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[192] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[193] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

[194] SPLOS/249.

[195] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document FIPI/R1012 (En).

*Welcoming in this regard* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

*Recalling* that in "The future we want",[196] States were encouraged to give due consideration to implementing the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, of the Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Noting* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the development of international guidelines on small-scale fisheries, including the conduct of further national and regional consultations and the convening of an intergovernmental technical consultation from 20 to 24 May 2013,

*Noting also* the completion by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization and the International Maritime Organization of new guidelines to assist competent authorities in the implementation of voluntary instruments on the design, construction and equipment of fishing vessels and a new safety standard for small fishing vessels,[197]

*Recognizing* the urgent need for action at all levels to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of fisheries resources through the wide application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches,

*Expressing concern* over the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on food security and the sustainability of fisheries, and noting in that regard the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements are based on the best available scientific information,

*Deploring* the fact that fish stocks, including straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in many parts of the world are overfished or subject to sparsely regulated and heavy fishing efforts, as a result of, inter alia, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, inadequate flag State control and enforcement, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, inadequate regulatory measures, harmful fisheries subsidies and overcapacity, as well as inadequate port State control, as highlighted in the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2012*,

*Expressing its support* for accelerating work to complete the ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organization to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing,

*Concerned* that only a limited number of States have taken measures to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Particularly concerned* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing constitutes a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of sustainable fisheries as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

*Concerned* that some operators increasingly take advantage of the globalization of fishery markets to trade fishery products stemming from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and make economic profits from those operations, which constitutes an incentive for them to pursue their activities,

*Recognizing* that effective deterrence and combating of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has significant financial and other resource implications,

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[196] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[197] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 89/25/Add.1, annex 16.

*Recognizing also* the duty provided in the Convention, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas (the Compliance Agreement),[198] the Agreement and the Code for flag States to exercise effective control over fishing vessels flying their flag, and vessels flying their flag which provide support to fishing vessels, to ensure that the activities of such fishing and support vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

*Recognizing further* the importance of adequately regulating, monitoring and controlling trans-shipment at sea to contribute to combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities,

*Acknowledging* the convening by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the resumed session of the Technical Consultation on Flag State Performance, in Rome from 5 to 9 March 2012, and noting the request of the Committee on Fisheries at its thirtieth session to convene the second resumed session of the Technical Consultation,

*Noting* the obligation of all States, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of living marine resources, and recognizing the importance of coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and national levels in the areas, inter alia, of marine scientific research, data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training for the conservation, management and sustainable development of living marine resources,

*Acknowledging* the importance of ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction to sustainable development, promoting safety at sea and limiting human vulnerability to natural disasters, due to their use in weather and marine forecasts, fisheries management, tsunami forecasts and climate prediction, and expressing concern that most damage to ocean data buoys, such as moored buoys and tsunameters, frequently results from actions taken by some fishing operations which render the buoys inoperable,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the adoption of measures by States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to protect ocean data buoy systems from the impacts of fishing activities,

*Recognizing* the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement, consistent with international law, effective port State measures to combat overfishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity, and the importance of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

*Noting with satisfaction* the ratification of, accessions to and approval of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[199]

*Welcoming* the endorsement by the Committee on Fisheries at its thirtieth session of terms of reference for the ad hoc working group envisioned in article 21 of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, to be applied when this Agreement enters into force,

*Noting* the success of the first regional capacity development workshop convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held in Bangkok from 23 to 27 April 2012, in the context of its series of regional capacity development workshops to prepare for the entry into force of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,

*Welcoming* the convening of the fourth Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop, to be held in Costa Rica in 2014,

*Concerned* that marine pollution from all sources constitutes a serious threat to human health and safety, endangers fish stocks, marine biodiversity and marine and coastal habitats and has significant costs to local and national economies,

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[198] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39486.

[199] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2009/REP and Corr.1, appendix E.

*Recognizing* that marine debris is a global transboundary pollution problem and that, due to the many different types and sources of marine debris, different approaches to their prevention and removal are necessary, including identification of such sources,

*Noting* that the contribution of sustainable aquaculture to global fish supplies continues to respond to opportunities in developing countries to enhance local food security and poverty alleviation and, together with the efforts of other aquaculture-producing countries, will make a significant contribution to meeting future demands in fish consumption, bearing in mind article 9 of the Code,

*Reaffirming* the importance of sustainable aquaculture to food security, and concerned about the potential effects of genetically engineered aquatic fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks,

*Calling attention* to the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities whose livelihoods, economic development and food security are heavily dependent on sustainable fisheries and will suffer disproportionately if sustainable fisheries are negatively affected,

*Calling attention also* to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States, and recognizing the urgent need for capacity-building, including the transfer of marine technology and in particular fisheries-related technology, to enhance the ability of such States to exercise their rights in order to realize the benefits from fisheries resources and fulfil their obligations under international instruments,

*Recognizing* the need to adopt, implement and enforce appropriate measures to minimize by-catch, waste, discards, including high-grading, loss of fishing gear and other factors that adversely affect the sustainability of fish stocks and ecosystems and, consequently, can also have harmful effects on the economies and food security of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities,

*Recognizing also* the need to further integrate ecosystem approaches into fisheries conservation and management and, more generally, the importance of applying ecosystem approaches to the management of human activities in the ocean, and noting in this regard the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem,[200] the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to guidelines for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and the importance of this approach to relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code, as well as decision VII/11[201] and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

*Recognizing further* the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the vulnerability of certain shark species to overexploitation, the fact that some are threatened with extinction, the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries, and the relevance of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999, in providing guidance on the development of such measures,

*Welcoming in this regard* the review by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and its ongoing work in this regard,

*Noting with concern* that basic data on shark stocks and harvests continue to be lacking and that not all regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have adopted conservation and management measures for directed shark fisheries and for the regulation of by-catch of sharks from other fisheries,

*Welcoming* science-based measures taken by States to conserve and sustainably manage sharks, and noting in this respect management measures taken by coastal States, including limits on catch or fishing effort, technical measures, including by-catch reduction measures, sanctuaries, closed seasons and areas and monitoring, control and surveillance,

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[200] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[201] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

*Recognizing* the importance of marine species occupying low trophic levels in the ecosystem and for food security, and the need to ensure their long-term sustainability,

*Expressing concern* over continued incidental mortality, in fishing operations, of seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels, as well as other marine species, including sharks, fin-fish species, marine mammals and marine turtles, while recognizing considerable efforts by States and through various regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to reduce incidental mortality as a result of by-catch,

## I

## Achieving sustainable fisheries

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention,[192] in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in Part V and Part VII, section 2, of the Convention, and where applicable, the Agreement;[193]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in "The future we want",[196] States addressed the sustainable development of fisheries, recognized the significant contribution of fisheries to the three dimensions of sustainable development and stressed the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people;

3. *Notes in this regard* that in its report on its thirtieth session,[195] the Committee on Fisheries urged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to reinforce its emphasis on fish as food, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to give due priority to these issues in its future work;

4. *Encourages* States to give due priority to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[202] in relation to achieving sustainable fisheries, especially restoring depleted stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and, where possible, not later than 2015, and recalls that in "The future we want", States committed themselves to intensify their efforts to meet that target and to urgently take the measures necessary to maintain or restore all stocks at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, with the aim of achieving those goals in the shortest time feasible, as determined by their biological characteristics, and in order to achieve this, to urgently develop and implement science-based management plans, including by reducing or suspending fishing catch and fishing effort commensurate with the status of the stock, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

5. *Urges* States, either directly or through appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations or arrangements, to intensify efforts to assess and address, as appropriate, the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on the sustainability of fish stocks and the habitats that support them, in particular the most affected ones;

6. *Emphasizes* the obligations of flag States to discharge their responsibilities, in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement, to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag with the conservation and management measures adopted and in force with respect to fisheries resources on the high seas;

7. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

8. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply widely, in accordance with international law and the Code, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks, and also calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

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[202] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

9. *Urges* States to increase their reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures, and to increase their efforts, including through international cooperation, to promote science for conservation and management measures that apply, in accordance with international law, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, enhancing understanding of ecosystem approaches, in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as a framework for the improvement and understanding of fishery status and trends;

10. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply stock-specific precautionary reference points, as described in annex II to the Agreement and in the Code, to ensure that populations of harvested stocks and, where necessary, associated or dependent species, are maintained at or restored to sustainable levels, and to use these reference points for triggering conservation and management action;

11. *Encourages* States to apply the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches in adopting and implementing conservation and management measures addressing, inter alia, by-catch, pollution and overfishing, and protecting habitats of specific concern, taking into account existing guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

12. *Also encourages* States to enhance or develop observer programmes, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, in order to improve data collection on, inter alia, target and by-catch species, which could also assist monitoring, control and surveillance tools, and to take into account standards, forms of cooperation and other existing structures for such programmes as described in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

13. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to collect and, where appropriate, report to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations required catch and effort data, and fishery-related information, in a complete, accurate and timely way, including for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks within and beyond areas under national jurisdiction, discrete high seas fish stocks, and by-catch and discards; and, where they do not exist, to establish processes to strengthen data collection and reporting by members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, including through regular reviews of member compliance with such obligations, and, when such obligations are not met, require the member concerned to rectify the problem, including through the preparation of plans of action with timelines;

14. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to cooperate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the implementation and further development of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System initiative;

15. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006, and calls upon States, including through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to urgently adopt and implement measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, inter alia, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality and, where scientific information is uncertain or inadequate, not increasing fishing effort in directed shark fisheries until measures have been established to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark stocks and to prevent further declines of vulnerable or threatened shark stocks;

16. *Acknowledges* that the Committee on Fisheries at its thirtieth session appreciated the review on the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks and called for further analysis and for the inclusion of market States, and an improved record of data collection;

17. *Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organization or arrangement and national measures that

regulate shark fisheries and incidental catch of sharks, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

18. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to regulate highly migratory species to strengthen or establish precautionary, science-based conservation and management measures, as appropriate, for sharks taken in fisheries within their convention areas consistent with the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks;

19. *Notes with satisfaction* the adoption of the Conservation Plan under the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,[203] at the first Meeting of Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, held in Bonn, Germany, from 24 to 27 September 2012, and invites range States to consider signing and cooperating as partners, as referred to in the memorandum of understanding, and to consider associating themselves with the memorandum of understanding;

20. *Urges* States to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products which are not consistent with their rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements, taking into account the importance of the trade in fish and fisheries products, particularly for developing countries;

21. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States committed themselves to observing the need to ensure access to fisheries and the importance of access to markets by subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisherfolk and women fish workers, as well as indigenous peoples and their communities, particularly in developing countries, especially small island developing States;

22. *Urges* States and relevant international and national organizations to provide for the participation of small-scale fishery stakeholders in related policy development and fisheries management strategies in order to achieve long-term sustainability for such fisheries, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

23. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to analyse, as appropriate, the impact of fishing for marine species corresponding to low trophic levels;

24. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the fact that the Committee on Fisheries at its thirtieth session encouraged further studies of the impact of industrial fishing activities on species corresponding to low trophic levels, in order to support the establishment of appropriate levels of catch and effort to mitigate their impact on the ecosystem;

25. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to consider the potential effects of genetically engineered fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks and to provide guidance, consistent with the Code, on minimizing harmful impacts in this regard;

## II

## Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

26. *Calls upon* all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and in the interim to consider applying it provisionally;

27. *Calls upon* States parties to the Agreement to effectively implement, as a matter of priority, the provisions of the Agreement through their national legislation and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

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[203] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 28395.

28. *Emphasizes* the importance of those provisions of the Agreement relating to bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

29. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof to inform, either directly or through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, all States whose vessels fish on the high seas in the same subregion or region of the form of identification issued by those States parties to officials duly authorized to carry out boarding and inspection functions in accordance with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

30. *Also urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof to designate an appropriate authority to receive notifications pursuant to article 21 and to give due publicity to such designation through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement;

31. *Invites* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to adopt procedures for high seas boarding and inspection that are consistent with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

32. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence over discrete high seas fish stocks, to adopt the necessary measures to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of such stocks in accordance with the Convention and consistent with the Code and the general principles set forth in the Agreement;

33. *Invites* States to assist developing States in enhancing their participation in regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, including by facilitating access to fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1 (*b*), of the Agreement, taking into account the need to ensure that such access benefits the developing States concerned and their nationals;

34. *Invites* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

35. *Encourages* States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement;

36. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division) to continue their efforts to publicize the availability of assistance through the Assistance Fund;

37. *Encourages* accelerated progress by States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, regarding the recommendations of the Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 22 to 26 May 2006,[204] and the identification of emerging priorities;

38. *Encourages* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the resumed Review Conference, held in New York from 24 to 28 May 2010;[205]

39. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of its resolution 56/13 of 28 November 2001, and requests the Secretary-General to convene a tenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement in 2014;

40. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations initiate arrangements with States for the collection and dissemination of data on fishing in the high seas by vessels flying their flag at the subregional and regional levels where no such arrangements exist;

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[204] See A/CONF.210/2006/15, annex.

[205] See A/CONF.210/2010/7, annex.

41. *Also reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations revise its global fisheries statistics database to provide information on straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks on the basis of where the catch is taken;

## III

## Related fisheries instruments

42. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Compliance Agreement,[198] and urges continued efforts in this regard;

43. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement that have not yet become parties to that Agreement to do so as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to consider applying it provisionally;

44. *Urges* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to implement and promote the application of the Code within their areas of competence;

45. *Urges* States to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, national and, as appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

46. *Encourages* the development of best practice guidelines for safety at sea in connection with marine fisheries by the competent international organizations;

47. *Welcomes* the adoption by the International Maritime Organization of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977, at the International Conference on the Safety of Fishing Vessels, held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 9 to 11 October 2012, and encourages States to consider expressing their consent to be bound by this Agreement at the earliest opportunity;

## IV

## Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

48. *Emphasizes once again its serious concern* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to fish stocks and marine ecosystems and continues to have serious and major implications for the conservation and management of ocean resources, as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States, and renews its call upon States to comply fully with all existing obligations and to combat such fishing and urgently to take all necessary steps to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

49. *Recalls in this regard* that in "The future we want", States acknowledged that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing deprive many countries of a crucial natural resource and remain a persistent threat to their sustainable development and recommitted to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as advanced in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and to prevent and combat those practices, including by developing and implementing national and regional action plans in accordance with the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, implementing, in accordance with international law, effective and coordinated measures by coastal States, flag States, port States, chartering nations and the States of nationality of the beneficial owners and others who support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by identifying vessels engaged in such fishing and by depriving offenders of the benefits accruing from it, as well as by cooperating with developing countries to systematically identify needs and build capacity, including support for monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement systems;

50. *Urges* States to exercise effective control over their nationals, including beneficial owners, and vessels flying their flag, in order to prevent and deter them from engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities or supporting vessels engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, including those

vessels listed by regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements as engaged in those activities, and to facilitate mutual assistance to ensure that such actions can be investigated and proper sanctions imposed;

51. *Also urges* States to take effective measures, at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, to deter the activities, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, of any vessel which undermines conservation and management measures that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with international law;

52. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and to take specific measures, including deterring the reflagging of vessels by their nationals, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

53. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop appropriate processes to assess the performance of States with respect to implementing the obligations regarding fishing vessels flying their flag set out in relevant international instruments;

54. *Encourages* States within the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue the work of the Technical Consultation on Flag State Performance with regard to the draft criteria for flag State performance, assessing flag State performance and possible actions in accordance with international law to encourage compliance, and assistance to developing countries to improve their performance as flag States;

55. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation, in particular at the subregional and regional levels, in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law, and for States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities;

56. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to further coordinate measures for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, such as through the development of a common list of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing or the mutual recognition of the illegal, unreported and unregulated vessel lists established by each organization or arrangement;

57. *Reaffirms its call upon* States to take all necessary measures consistent with international law, without prejudice to a State's sovereignty over ports in its territory and to reasons of force majeure or distress, including the prohibition of vessels from accessing their ports followed by a report to the flag State concerned, when there is clear evidence that they are or have been engaged in or have supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, or when they refuse to give information either on the origin of the catch or on the authorization under which the catch has been made;

58. *Reaffirms* paragraph 53 of resolution 64/72 of 4 December 2009 with regard to eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience" and requiring that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags, and urges States operating open registry to effectively control all fishing vessels flying their flag, as required by international law, or otherwise stop open registry for fishing vessels;

59. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and urges States to cooperate, in particular at the regional level and through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt all necessary port measures, consistent with international law taking into account article 23 of the Agreement, and to further promote the development and application of standards at the regional level;

60. *Encourages*, in this regard, States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing[199] with a view to its early entry into force;

61. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States that have signed the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing were called upon to expedite procedures for its ratification with a view to its early entry into force;

62. *Encourages* strengthened collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, taking into account the respective competencies, mandates and experience of the two organizations, to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, particularly in improving the implementation of flag State responsibilities and port State measures;

63. *Encourages* States, with respect to vessels flying their flag, and port States, to make every effort to share data on landings and catch quotas, and in this regard encourages regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider developing open databases containing such data for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of fisheries management;

64. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in trans-shipment of fish caught by fishing vessels engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, through adequate regulation, monitoring and control of trans-shipment of fish at sea, including through additional national measures applicable to vessels flying their flag to prevent such trans-shipment;

65. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt and implement internationally agreed market-related measures in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

66. *Encourages* information-sharing regarding emerging market- and trade-related measures by States and other relevant actors with appropriate international forums, given the potential implications of these measures for all States, consistent with the established plan of work of the Committee on Fisheries, and taking into account the Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fish Trade of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

67. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Committee on Fisheries at its thirtieth session at the proliferation of private standards and ecolabelling schemes potentially leading to the creation of trade barriers and restrictions, and also notes the ongoing work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes through the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries;

68. *Also notes* the concerns about possible connections between transnational organized crime and illegal fishing in certain regions of the world, and encourages States, including through the appropriate international forums and organizations, to study the causes and methods of and contributing factors to illegal fishing to increase knowledge and understanding of those possible connections, and to make the findings publicly available, and in this regard takes note of the study issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on transnational organized crime in the fishing industry, bearing in mind the distinct legal regimes and remedies under international law applicable to illegal fishing and transnational organized crime;

## V

## Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement

69. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with international law, to strengthen implementation of or, where they do not exist, adopt comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance measures and compliance and enforcement schemes individually and within those regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in which they participate, in order to provide an appropriate framework for promoting compliance with agreed conservation and management measures, and further urges enhanced coordination among all relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in these efforts;

70. *Encourages* further work by competent international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop guidelines on flag State control of fishing vessels;

71. *Urges* States, individually and through relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems, in particular to require that vessel monitoring systems be carried by all vessels fishing on the high seas as soon as practicable, recalling

that paragraph 62 of resolution 63/112 of 5 December 2008 urged that large-scale fishing vessels be required to carry vessel monitoring systems no later than December 2008, and to share information on fisheries enforcement matters;

72. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to strengthen or establish, consistent with national and international law, positive or negative lists of vessels fishing within the areas covered by relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to promote compliance with conservation and management measures and to identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches, and encourages improved coordination among all States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in sharing and using this information, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

73. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with States, regional economic integration organizations, the International Maritime Organization and, as appropriate, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to expedite efforts to develop and manage a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels and supply vessels, including with a unique vessel identifier system, using the International Maritime Organization numbering system for fishing vessels above 100 gross register tonnage as a first step, and notes the outcomes achieved in this regard at the thirtieth session of the Committee on Fisheries;

74. *Requests* States and relevant international bodies to develop, in accordance with international law, more effective measures to trace fish and fishery products to enable importing States to identify fish or fishery products caught in a manner that undermines international conservation and management measures agreed in accordance with international law, taking into account the special requirements of developing States and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement, and at the same time to recognize the importance of market access, in accordance with provisions 11.2.4, 11.2.5 and 11.2.6 of the Code, for fish and fishery products caught in a manner that is in conformity with such international measures;

75. *Requests* States to take the necessary measures, consistent with international law, to help to prevent fish and fishery products caught in a manner that undermines applicable conservation and management measures adopted in accordance with international law from entering international trade;

76. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the development of best practice guidelines for catch documentation schemes and traceability, in accordance with its agreed terms of reference and framework principles;

77. *Encourages* States to establish and undertake cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities in accordance with international law to strengthen and enhance efforts to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures, and prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

78. *Urges* States, directly and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to develop and adopt effective monitoring, control and surveillance measures for trans-shipment, as appropriate, in particular at-sea trans-shipment, in order to, inter alia, monitor compliance, collect and verify fisheries data, and to prevent and suppress illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, in accordance with international law and, in parallel, to encourage and support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in studying the current practices of trans-shipment and produce a set of guidelines for this purpose;

79. *Expresses its appreciation* for financial contributions from States to improve the capacity of the existing voluntary International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related Activities, and encourages States to join and actively participate in the Network and to consider supporting, when appropriate, its transformation in accordance with international law into an international unit with dedicated resources to further assist Network members, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

80. *Encourages* participation in the fourth Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop, to be held in Costa Rica in 2014, supported by the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related Activities, in order to share information, experiences and technologies, foster coordination and improve skills among enforcement officials;

## VI

## Fishing overcapacity

81. *Calls upon* States to commit themselves to urgently reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment, while avoiding the transfer of fishing capacity to other fisheries or areas in a manner that undermines the sustainable management of fish stocks, including those areas where fish stocks are overexploited or in a depleted condition, and recognizing in this context the legitimate rights of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks consistent with article 25 of the Agreement, article 5 of the Code, and paragraph 10 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

82. *Reiterates its call upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to ensure that the urgent actions required in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity are undertaken expeditiously and that its implementation is facilitated without delay;

83. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to report on the state of progress in the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, as provided for in paragraph 48 of the Plan of Action;

84. *Calls upon* States individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to regulate highly migratory species, urgently to address global fishing capacity for tunas, inter alia, in a way that recognizes the legitimate rights of developing States, in particular small island developing States, to participate in and benefit from such fisheries, taking into account the recommendations of the Joint Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations International Workshop on RFMO Management of Tuna Fisheries, held in Brisbane, Australia, from 29 June to 1 July 2010 and the recommendations of the third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, in July 2011;

85. *Encourages* those States which are cooperating to establish subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, taking into account the best scientific information available as well as the precautionary approach, to exercise voluntary restraint of fishing effort levels in those areas that will come under the regulation of the future organizations and arrangements until adequate regional conservation and management measures are adopted and implemented, taking into account the need to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the relevant fish stocks and to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

86. *Urges* States to eliminate subsidies that contribute to overfishing and overcapacity and to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including by accelerating work to complete World Trade Organization negotiations on fisheries subsidies in accordance with the 2001 Doha Ministerial Declaration[206] to clarify and improve and the 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to strengthen disciplines on fisheries subsidies, taking into account the importance of the fisheries sector to developing countries;

87. *Recalls*, in this regard, that in "The future we want", States reaffirmed their commitment in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and overcapacity, taking into account the importance of that sector to developing countries, reiterated their commitment to conclude multilateral disciplines on fisheries subsidies that would give effect to the mandates of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda[206] and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation, taking into account the importance of the sector to development priorities, poverty reduction and livelihood and food security concerns, and encouraged one another to further

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[206] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

improve the transparency and reporting of existing fisheries subsidies programmes through the World Trade Organization and, given the state of fisheries resources, and without prejudicing the Doha and Hong Kong ministerial mandates on fisheries subsidies or the need to conclude those negotiations, to eliminate subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing and to refrain from introducing new such subsidies or from extending or enhancing existing ones;

## VII

### Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing

88. *Expresses concern* that, despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/215 of 20 December 1991, the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing still exists and remains a threat to living marine resources;

89. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the provisions of resolution 46/215 and subsequent resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing in order to eliminate the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets in all seas and oceans, which means that efforts to implement resolution 46/215 should not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution;

90. *Also urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the present global moratorium on the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets on the high seas, and calls upon States to ensure that vessels flying their flag that are duly authorized to use large-scale drift nets in waters under their national jurisdiction do not use such gear for fishing while on the high seas;

## VIII

### Fisheries by-catch and discards

91. *Urges* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations that have not done so to take action, including with consideration of the interests of developing coastal States and, as appropriate, subsistence fishing communities, to reduce or eliminate by-catch, catch by lost or abandoned gear, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring the confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will reduce or eliminate by-catch of juvenile fish, and to ensure that these measures are implemented so as to optimize their effectiveness;

92. *Welcomes* the commitment of States in "The future we want" to enhance action to manage by-catch, discards and other adverse ecosystem impacts from fisheries, including by eliminating destructive fishing practices, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

93. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, taking into account the best available scientific information on fishing methods, including fish aggregating devices, to minimize by-catch;

94. *Also calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and other devices, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental by-catch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles, and notes in this regard the measures adopted by different regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

95. *Urgently calls upon* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and, where appropriate, other relevant international organizations to develop and implement effective management measures to reduce the incidence of catch of non-target species, including the utilization of selective fishing gear, where appropriate;

96. *Calls upon* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to adopt or improve measures to assess the impact of their fisheries on species caught as by-catch and to improve the comprehensiveness and accuracy of information and reporting on incidental catch of species caught as by-catch, including through adequate observer coverage and the use of modern technologies, and to provide assistance to developing States to meet data-collection and reporting obligations;

97. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to strengthen or establish data-collection programmes to obtain reliable species-specific estimates of shark, marine turtle, fin-fish, marine mammal and sea bird by-catch, and to promote further research on selective fishing gear and practices and on the use of appropriate by-catch mitigation measures;

98. *Encourages* States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to give due consideration to participation, as appropriate, in subregional and regional instruments and organizations with mandates to conserve non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations;

99. *Encourages* States to strengthen, if necessary, the capacity of those subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate to ensure the adequate conservation of non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations, taking into consideration best practices for non-target species management, and to expedite their ongoing efforts in this regard;

100. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements urgently to implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the 2004 Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations and the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to prevent the decline of sea turtles and seabird populations by minimizing by-catch and increasing post-release survival in their fisheries, including through research and development of gear and bait alternatives, promoting the use of available by-catch mitigation technology, and establishing and strengthening data-collection programmes to obtain standardized information to develop reliable estimates of the by-catch of these species;

101. *Welcomes* the International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and urges States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement them;

102. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to continue to take urgent action to reduce the by-catch of seabirds, including albatrosses and petrels, in fisheries by adopting and implementing conservation measures consistent with the 2009 best practices technical guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to support implementation of the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries and taking into account the work of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels[207] and of organizations such as the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources;

## IX

### Subregional and regional cooperation

103. *Urges* coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and other relevant instruments, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation and management of such stocks;

104. *Urges* States fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, where a subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement has the competence to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of such an organization or participants in such an arrangement, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such an organization or arrangement, or to

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[207] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2258, No. 40228.

otherwise ensure that no vessel flying their flag is authorized to access the fisheries resources to which regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements or conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements apply;

105. *Invites*, in this regard, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code;

106. *Encourages* relevant coastal States and States fishing on the high seas for a straddling fish stock or a highly migratory fish stock, where there is no subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to cooperate to establish such an organization or enter into another appropriate arrangement to ensure the conservation and management of such stocks, and to participate in the work of the organization or arrangement;

107. *Urges* all signatory States and other States whose vessels fish within the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean[208] for fishery resources covered by that Convention to become parties to that Convention as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to ensure that vessels flying their flags fully comply with the measures adopted;

108. *Welcomes* the recent entry into force of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, and encourages signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to it;

109. *Takes note* of recent efforts at the regional level to promote responsible fishing practices, including combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

110. *Welcomes* the recent entry into force of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean, and encourages further ratifications, accessions, acceptances and approvals of that Convention;

111. *Encourages* States, regional economic integration organizations and the entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean that participated in the negotiation of that Convention to fully implement the voluntary interim measures that have been adopted to give effect to paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of General Assembly resolution 61/105 until conservation and management measures have been adopted;

112. *Also encourages* States, regional economic integration organizations and the entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean that participated in the negotiation of that Convention to fully implement the voluntary interim measures that have been adopted and to voluntarily restrain fishing effort and catches to avoid overexploitation of certain pelagic fisheries resources in the area to which that Convention applies until conservation and management measures have been adopted;

113. *Notes with satisfaction* the opening for signature of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, and encourages States participating in the negotiation of that Convention to fully implement interim voluntary measures adopted in accordance with paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 117, 119, 120, 122 and 123 of resolution 64/72;

114. *Takes note* of the ongoing efforts of the members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to strengthen the functioning of the Commission so that it can more effectively discharge its mandate, and invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide members of the Commission with the necessary assistance to this end;

115. *Encourages* signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica;

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[208] Ibid., vol. 2221, No. 39489.

116. *Urges* the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries[209] that have not yet done so to approve the 2007 Amendment to that Convention with a view to its early entry into effect;

117. *Urges* further efforts by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as a matter of priority, in accordance with international law, to strengthen and modernize their mandates and the measures adopted by such organizations or arrangements, and to implement modern approaches to fisheries management, as reflected in the Agreement and other relevant international instruments, relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach and incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations, including the conservation and management of ecologically related and dependent species and protection of their habitats, where these aspects are lacking, to ensure that they effectively contribute to long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of living marine resources, and welcomes those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have taken steps in this direction;

118. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to conserve and manage highly migratory fish stocks that have not yet adopted effective conservation and management measures in line with the best scientific information available to conserve and manage stocks falling under their mandate to do so urgently;

119. *Urges* States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate, including increased communication and further coordination of measures, such as through the holding of joint consultations, and to strengthen integration, coordination and cooperation by such regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with other relevant fisheries organizations, regional seas arrangements and other relevant international organizations;

120. *Urges* the five regional fisheries management organizations with competence to manage highly migratory species to continue to take measures to implement the Course of Actions adopted at the second joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to consider the recommendations of the third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

121. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage straddling fish stocks to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

122. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve transparency and to ensure that their decision-making processes are fair and transparent, rely on the best scientific information available, incorporate the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, address participatory rights, including through, inter alia, the development of transparent criteria for allocating fishing opportunities which reflects, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of the Agreement, taking due account, inter alia, of the status of the relevant stocks and the respective interests in the fishery;

123. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have completed performance reviews, encourages the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations of their respective reviews as a matter of priority, and in this regard welcomes the 2012 performance review of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization and the 2012 performance review of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission;

124. *Urges* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so, to undertake, on an urgent basis, performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, initiated either by the organization or arrangement itself or with external partners, including in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, using transparent criteria based on the provisions of the Agreement and other relevant instruments, and taking into account the best practices of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and, as appropriate, any set of criteria developed by States or other regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, and encourages that such performance reviews include some element of independent evaluation and propose means for improving the functioning of the regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, as appropriate;

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[209] Ibid., vol. 1135, No. 17799.

125. *Calls upon* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to undertake performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements on a regular basis, and to make the results publicly available, to implement the recommendations of such reviews and to strengthen the comprehensiveness of those reviews over time, as necessary;

126. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States recognized the need for transparency and accountability in fisheries management by regional fisheries management organizations and the efforts already made by those regional fisheries management organizations that had undertaken independent performance reviews, called upon all regional fisheries management organizations to regularly undertake such reviews and make the results publicly available, encouraged implementation of the recommendations of such reviews and recommended that the comprehensiveness of those reviews be strengthened over time, as necessary;

127. *Urges* States to cooperate, taking into account those performance reviews, to develop best practice guidelines for regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to apply, to the extent possible, those guidelines to organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

128. *Encourages* the development of regional guidelines for States to use in establishing sanctions for non-compliance by vessels flying their flag and by their nationals, to be applied in accordance with national law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities, as well as in evaluating their systems of sanctions to ensure that they are effective in securing compliance and deterring violations;

## X

## Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem

129. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to enhance their efforts to apply an ecosystem approach to fisheries, taking into account paragraph 30 (*d*) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

130. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, to work to ensure that fisheries and other ecosystem data collection is performed in a coordinated and integrated manner, facilitating incorporation into global observation initiatives, where appropriate;

131. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, working in cooperation with other relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to adopt, as appropriate, measures to protect ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction from actions that impair their operation;

132. *Encourages* States to increase scientific research on the marine ecosystem in accordance with international law;

133. *Calls upon* States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, where appropriate, and other appropriate intergovernmental bodies, to cooperate in achieving sustainable aquaculture, including through information exchange, developing equivalent standards on such issues as aquatic animal health and human health and safety concerns, assessing the potential positive and negative impacts of aquaculture, including socioeconomics, on the marine and coastal environment, including biodiversity, and adopting relevant methods and techniques to minimize and mitigate adverse effects, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the 2007 Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Aquaculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as a framework for the improvement and understanding of aquaculture status and trends;

134. *Calls upon* States to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to continue implementing the 2008 International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Guidelines) in order to sustainably

manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from destructive fishing practices, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep-sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain;

135. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States committed to enhance actions to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from significant adverse impacts, including through the effective use of impact assessments, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

136. *Reaffirms* the importance of paragraphs 80 to 90 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 to 127 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121 to 136 of resolution 66/68 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the actions called for in those resolutions, and emphasizes the need for full implementation by all States and relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements of their commitments under those paragraphs on an urgent basis;

137. *Recalls* that nothing in the paragraphs of resolutions 61/105, 64/72 and 66/68 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems prejudices the sovereign rights of coastal States over their continental shelf or the exercise of the jurisdiction of coastal States with respect to their continental shelf under international law as reflected in the Convention, in particular article 77 thereof;

138. *Notes in this regard* the adoption by coastal States of conservation measures regarding their continental shelf to address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, as well as their efforts to ensure compliance with those measures;

139. *Welcomes* the important progress made by States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and those States participating in negotiations in establishing a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries to implement paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

140. *Also welcomes* the substantial ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to the management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and urges States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that their actions in sustainably managing deep-sea fisheries and implementing paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 are consistent with the Guidelines;

141. *Affirms* the importance of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations continuing to undertake work pursuant to paragraphs 135 and 136 of resolution 66/68 as part of its ongoing programme for deep-sea fisheries;

142. *Takes note* of the convening of the regional workshop on vulnerable marine ecosystems in the Indian Ocean, in Flic en Flac, Mauritius, from 25 to 27 July 2012, by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the SmartFish Programme of the Indian Ocean Commission;

143. *Encourages* accelerated progress to establish criteria on the objectives and management of marine protected areas for fisheries purposes, and in this regard welcomes the development by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of technical guidelines on marine protected areas and fisheries, and urges coordination and cooperation among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

144. *Urges* all States to implement the 1995 Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[210] and to accelerate activity to safeguard the marine ecosystem, including fish stocks, against pollution and physical degradation, taking into account the increase in oceanic dead zones;

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[210] See A/51/116, annex II.

145. *Acknowledges* the serious environmental impacts on the marine environment caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, and encourages States to take action to reduce such gear, noting the recommendations of the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

146. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to paragraphs 77 to 81 of resolution 60/31 of 29 November 2005 concerning the issue of lost, abandoned or discarded fishing gear and related marine debris and the adverse impacts such debris and derelict fishing gear have on, inter alia, fish stocks, habitats and other marine species, and urges accelerated progress by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing those paragraphs of the resolution;

147. *Encourages* further studies, including by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on the impacts of underwater noise on fish stocks and fishing catch rates, as well as associated socioeconomic effects;

148. *Calls upon* States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to play an active role in global efforts to conserve and sustainably use living marine resources, so as to contribute to marine biological diversity;

149. *Encourages* States, either individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to identify any spawning and nursery areas for fish stocks under their jurisdiction or competence and, where required, to adopt science-based measures to conserve such stocks during these critical life stages;

## XI

## Capacity-building

150. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of cooperation by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant subregional and regional organizations, and by other international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its FishCode programme, including through financial and/or technical assistance, in accordance with the Agreement, the Compliance Agreement, the Code and its associated international plans of action, to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

151. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing guidance on the strategies and measures required for the creation of an enabling environment for sustainable small-scale fisheries, and encourages studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

152. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology;

153. *Also recalls* that in "The future we want", States urged the identification and mainstreaming by 2014 of strategies that further assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in developing their national capacity to conserve, sustainably manage and realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries, including through improved market access for fish products from developing countries;

154. *Encourages* increased capacity-building and technical assistance by States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale fishers, in developing countries, and in particular small island developing States, consistent with environmental sustainability, in recognition of the fact that food security and livelihoods may depend on fisheries;

155. *Encourages* the international community to enhance the opportunities for sustainable development in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and coastal African States, by encouraging greater participation of those States in authorized fisheries activities being undertaken within areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with the Convention, by distant-water fishing nations in order to achieve better economic returns for developing countries from their fisheries resources within areas under their national jurisdiction and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management, as well as by enhancing the ability of developing countries to develop their own fisheries, as well as to participate in high seas fisheries, including access to such fisheries, in conformity with international law, in particular the Convention and the Agreement, and taking into account article 5 of the Code;

156. *Requests* distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements with developing coastal States, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis and to take into account their legitimate expectation to fully benefit from the sustainable use of the natural resources of their exclusive economic zones, to ensure that vessels flying their flag comply with the laws and regulations of the developing coastal States adopted in accordance with international law and to give greater attention to fish processing and fish-processing facilities within the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State to assist the realization of the benefits from the development of fisheries resources and also to the transfer of technology and assistance for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement within areas under the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State providing fisheries access, taking into account the forms of cooperation set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

157. *Encourages* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide greater assistance and to promote coherence in such assistance for developing States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including in designing and strengthening their domestic regulatory fisheries policies and those of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their regions, and the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility;

158. *Encourages* States to provide technical and financial support to developing countries to address their special requirements and challenges in implementing the Guidelines;

159. *Calls upon* States to promote, through continuing dialogue and the assistance and cooperation provided in accordance with articles 24 to 26 of the Agreement, further ratifications of or accessions to the Agreement by seeking to address, inter alia, the issue of lack of capacity and resources that might stand in the way of developing States becoming parties;

160. *Notes with appreciation* the compilation prepared by the Secretariat of the needs of developing States for capacity-building and assistance in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the sources of available assistance for developing States to address such needs;

161. *Encourages* States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant bodies to assist developing States in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68;

162. *Urges* States and regional economic integration organizations, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to mainstream efforts to assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, with other relevant international development strategies with a view to enhancing international coordination to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, consistent with the duty to ensure the conservation and management of those resources, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to fully mobilize and coordinate the agencies, funds and

programmes of the United Nations system, including at the level of the regional economic commissions, within their respective mandates;

163. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations to develop strategies to further assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, in fully realizing the benefits from the catch of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and in strengthening regional efforts to sustainably conserve and manage such stocks, and in this regard, to make available such information;

## XII

## Cooperation within the United Nations system

164. *Requests* the relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and donor agencies to support increased enforcement and compliance capabilities for regional fisheries management organizations and their member States;

165. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the international plans of action and to report to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in his annual report on sustainable fisheries, on priorities for cooperation and coordination in this work;

## XIII

## Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

166. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the report on sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments, prepared by the Division,[211] as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

167. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him by the Convention, the Agreement and the related resolutions of the General Assembly and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

## XIV

## Sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly

168. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, and to invite them to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of the present resolution;

169. *Notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and the effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on sustainable fisheries, decides that the informal consultations on this resolution will be held in a single round of consultations in November for a period of six days, and invites States to submit proposals for inclusion in the text of the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations no later than five weeks before the start of the consultations;

170. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", and to consider the possibility of including this sub-item in future provisional agendas on a biennial basis.

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[211] A/67/315.

## RESOLUTION 67/80

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.34 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

### 67/80. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976, 32/18 of 11 November 1977, 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979, 35/127 and 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991, 48/15 of 2 November 1993, 50/56 of 11 December 1995, 52/24 of 25 November 1997, 54/190 of 17 December 1999, 56/97 of 14 December 2001, 58/17 of 3 December 2003, 61/52 of 4 December 2006 and 64/78 of 7 December 2009,

*Recalling also* its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001, in which it proclaimed 2002 the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage,

*Recalling further* the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[212] the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,[213] the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict[214] and the two Protocols thereto,[215] the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,[216] the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,[217] the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage[218] and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[219]

*Welcoming* the fortieth anniversary of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property and the activities undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in this regard,

*Appreciating* the positive results of the second meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, in June 2012, which adopted rules of procedure of the meeting of States parties that, inter alia, stipulate that the meeting of States parties shall be convened every two years, and also established a subsidiary committee, which will be convened by the secretariat every year,

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[212] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806.

[213] Ibid., vol. 2421, No. 43718.

[214] Ibid., vol. 249, No. 3511.

[215] Ibid., vols. 249 and 2253, No. 3511.

[216] Ibid., vol. 1037, No. 15511.

[217] Ibid., vol. 2562, No. 45694.

[218] Ibid., vol. 2368, No. 42671.

[219] Ibid., vol. 2440, No. 43977.

*Welcoming* the decision of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its 190th session, held from 3 to 18 October 2012, authorizing the Director General to convene an extraordinary meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property during the first half of 2013, charged with electing the members of the subsidiary committee and encouraging the Director General to convene the first meeting of the committee in the first half of 2013,

*Noting* the adoption of the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property on 2 December 2004,[220] as it might apply to cultural property,

*Recalling* the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 17 October 2003 of the Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage,[221]

*Noting* the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and the Action Plan for its implementation, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001,[222]

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General submitted in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[223]

*Commending* Member States, cultural and educational institutions, museums and civil society for their efforts to combat the illicit trade in cultural properties, and welcoming all initiatives for the voluntary return of cultural properties that have been illicitly appropriated,

*Aware* of the importance attached by the countries of origin to the return of cultural property that is of fundamental spiritual, historical and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

*Expressing deep concern* about the continuing illicit traffic in cultural property and its damage to the cultural heritage of nations,

*Reaffirming* the necessity of international cooperation in preventing and combating all aspects of trafficking in cultural property, and noting that such cultural property is especially transferred through licit markets, such as auctions, including through the Internet,

*Expressing concern* about the loss, destruction, removal, theft, pillage, illicit movement or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism or damage directed against cultural property, in particular in areas of armed conflict, including territories that are occupied, whether such conflicts are international or internal,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 1483 (2003) of 22 May 2003, in particular paragraph 7 relating to the restitution of the cultural property of Iraq, and Council resolution 2056 (2012) of 5 July 2012 on the situation in Mali,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property and the implementation of the Object-ID standard related thereto, as well as for the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and the dissemination of information and tools to the public, institutions, Member States and others, and encourages the continuation of such endeavours;

2. *Notes* the support provided by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to launch international awareness-raising and training campaigns for museum experts, police forces, customs services and legal experts in Africa, Latin America, South-Eastern Europe and the Caribbean from September to December

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[220] Resolution 59/38, annex.

[221] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-second Session, Paris, 29 September–17 October 2003*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

[222] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*.

[223] See A/67/219.

2012, aimed at preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property by providing the legal and operational knowledge and directly applicable skills to strengthen the protection of cultural property;

3. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within their mandates and in cooperation with Member States, in order to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin and to provide appropriate support accordingly;

4. *Recognizes* the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in combating trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the Organization to continue to provide leadership and expertise in protecting cultural property to other international bodies, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[212] the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,[213] the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict[214] and the two Protocols thereto,[215] the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,[216] the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,[217] the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage[218] and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[219] and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the aforementioned conventions and protocols that specifically address the return and restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the meeting on the fortieth anniversary of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, held in Paris at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, on 15 and 16 March 2011, and of the Declaration of the International Forum on the Return of Cultural Property, held in Seoul on 19 July 2011;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the first meeting of the special committee to review the practical operation of the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects, held at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 19 June 2012;

8. *Welcomes* the decision of the second meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which adopted the rules of procedure of the meeting of States parties, by which, inter alia, it was decided that the meeting of States parties should be convened every two years, and which established a subsidiary committee that will be convened every year by the secretariat in order to, inter alia, promote the purposes of the Convention, review national reports, and prepare and submit to the meeting of States parties recommendations and guidelines that can help the implementation of the Convention and identify problems arising from its implementation;

9. *Notes* the authorization given to the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to convene in the first half of 2013 an extraordinary meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, charged notably with electing the members of the subsidiary committee, as well as the encouragement to the Director General to convene the first meeting of the committee in the first half of 2013;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property,[220] notes that the Convention has still not entered into force, and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

11. *Deplores* damage to the cultural heritage of countries in situations of crisis, conflict and post-conflict, in particular recent attacks on world cultural heritage sites, calls for an immediate end to such acts, and reminds States parties to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of the provisions contained therein to safeguard and respect cultural property and to prohibit, prevent and, if necessary, put a stop to any form of theft, pillage or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism directed against cultural property;

12. *Welcomes* the most recent efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the protection of the cultural heritage of countries in conflict, including the safe return to those countries of cultural property and other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific and religious importance that have been illegally removed, and calls upon the international community to contribute to these efforts;

13. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including by publicizing legislation and offering special training for police, customs and border services and to consider such trafficking a serious crime, as defined in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[224]

14. *Invites* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to draw up systematic inventories of their cultural property;

15. *Invites* States to consider establishing and developing national, regional and international databases inventorying cultural property, which would also register trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted or illicitly excavated, and illicitly dealt-in, cultural property, and encourages States to enhance the exchange of information by sharing or interconnecting inventories of cultural property and databases on trafficked, illicitly exported or imported, stolen, looted or illicitly excavated, and illicitly dealt-in, cultural property and contributing to international inventories and databases;

16. *Recognizes* the advancement of the Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which includes legislation from 180 Member States, and invites Member States to provide their legislation in electronic format for inclusion in the database if they have not yet done so, to provide regular updates to the database and to promote it;

17. *Applauds* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote the use of identification and inventory systems, in particular the application of the Object-ID standard, and to encourage the linking of identification systems and existing databases, including the one developed by INTERPOL, to allow for the electronic transmission of information in order to reduce illicit trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make further efforts in this regard in cooperation with Member States, where appropriate;

18. *Notes* the adoption by the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, at its sixteenth session, from 21 to 23 September 2010, of the rules of procedure for mediation and conciliation,[225] and invites Member States to consider the possibility of using such processes as appropriate;

19. *Welcomes* the presentation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law of model provisions on state ownership of undiscovered cultural objects, and encourages Member States to consider using these model provisions and adopting effective legislation for the establishment and recognition of States' ownership of their heritage, as appropriate under national laws, with a view to facilitating restitution in cases of unlawful removal;

20. *Notes* the Model Export Certificate for Cultural Objects developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Customs Organization as a tool to combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, and invites Member States to consider adopting the model export certificate as their national export certificate, in accordance with national law and procedures;

21. *Takes note* of resolution 102 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session in November 2011 on the reports by Member States on the measures taken for the implementation of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;[226]

22. *Recognizes* the public awareness and increased mobilization and action in favour of heritage values achieved in 2002, the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, and on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, and calls upon the international community and the United Nations to continue to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the basis of that work;

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[224] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[225] A/67/219, annex I, recommendation No. 4.

[226] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-sixth Session, Paris, 25 October–10 November 2011*, vol. 1 and corrigenda: *Resolutions*.

23. *Invites* those who deal with trade in cultural property and their associations, where they exist, to encourage the effective implementation of the International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property, as endorsed by the General Conference of the United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 16 November 1999,[227] the International Council of Museums Code of Ethics for Museums and other existing codes;

24. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to hold discussions with the representatives of the international trade in art in order to improve practices and raise awareness in such areas as provenance investigations, ethics, restitution procedures and knowledge of the international legal framework;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of the International Fund for the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, launched in November 2000, and invites Member States to increase further their voluntary contributions to the Fund in order to enhance its efficiency, and to make use of the Fund;

26. *Also recognizes* the importance of cooperation among States in the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property, as well as its illegal removal from the countries of origin, through, inter alia, the conclusion of bilateral agreements and mutual legal assistance, including the prosecution of persons involved in such activities and extradition, in accordance with the laws of cooperating States and under applicable international law;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its efforts to bring about the attainment of the objectives of the present resolution;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin".

## RESOLUTION 67/81

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.36 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia

### 67/81. Global health and foreign policy

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 63/33 of 26 November 2008, 64/108 of 10 December 2009, 65/95 of 9 December 2010 and 66/115 of 12 December 2011,

*Welcoming* the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits which have contributed to the advancement of the global health agenda, especially the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[228] the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011,[229] the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, adopted on 10 June 2011 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV and AIDS,[230] the Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health, adopted at the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health, held in Rio de Janeiro from 19 to 21 October 2011, World Health Assembly resolution 58.33 of 25 May 2005 on sustainable health financing, universal coverage and social health insurance,[231] World Health Assembly resolution 64.9 of 24 May 2011 on sustainable health financing structures and universal coverage,[232] and Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, from 30 May to 14 June 2012, and reaffirming the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, adopted in Cairo in September 1994,[233] the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action,[234] and the Beijing Declaration[235] and Platform for Action,[236]

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[227] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*.

[228] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Reaffirming* the right of every human being to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, without distinction as to race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition, and the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one's family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond one's control,

*Noting with particular concern* that for millions of people, the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including access to medicines, remains a distant goal, that especially for children and those living in poverty, the likelihood of achieving this goal is becoming increasingly remote, that millions of people are driven below the poverty line each year because of catastrophic out-of-pocket payments for health care, and that excessive out-of-pocket payments can discourage the impoverished from seeking or continuing care,

*Taking note* of the *World Health Report 2010*, entitled "Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage", and the Social Protection Floor Initiative endorsed by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in April 2009, and taking note with appreciation of the outcomes of international and regional meetings that reaffirm the importance of universal health coverage, including the Mexico City Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage, adopted on 2 April 2012, the Bangkok Statement on Universal Health Coverage, adopted at the Prince Mahidol Award Conference on 28 January 2012, and the Tunis Declaration on Value for Money, Sustainability and Accountability in the Health Sector, adopted on 5 July 2012,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to make every effort to accelerate the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, by 2015,

*Acknowledging* that many of the underlying determinants of health and risk factors of both non-communicable and communicable diseases, in particular tuberculosis, malaria and HIV and AIDS, as well as the causes of maternal and infant mortality, are associated with social and economic conditions, the improvement of which is a social and economic policy issue,

*Acknowledging also* the need to continue to promote, establish or support and strengthen multisectoral national policies and plans for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and to take steps to implement such policies and plans, including by recognizing the importance of universal coverage in national health systems, taking into account their significant impact on the sustainability of health system financing,

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[229] Resolution 66/2, annex.

[230] Resolution 65/277, annex.

[231] See World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1.

[232] See World Health Organization, document WHA64/2011/REC/1.

[233] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[234] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[235] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[236] Ibid., annex II.

*Recognizing* the importance of universal coverage in national health systems, especially through primary health-care and social protection mechanisms, to provide access to health services for all, in particular for the poorest segments of the population,

*Recalling in particular* that the sixty-fourth World Health Assembly, in its resolution 64.9, requested the Director General of the World Health Organization to convey to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the importance of universal health coverage for discussion by a forthcoming session of the General Assembly,

*Noting* the role of the Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative in promoting synergy between foreign policy and global health, as well as the contribution of the Oslo Ministerial Declaration of 20 March 2007, entitled "Global health: a pressing foreign policy issue of our time",[237] which was reaffirmed, with renewed actions and commitments, by the ministerial declaration of 22 September 2010,[238]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the note by the Secretary-General[239] transmitting the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization and the recommendations contained in the report on improving coordination, coherence, and effectiveness of governance for global health and addressing the interlinkages between health and environment and health and natural disasters;

2. *Calls for* more attention to health as an important cross-cutting policy issue on the international agenda, as it is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions of sustainable development, and for the recognition that global health challenges require concerted and sustained efforts to further promote a global policy environment supportive of global health and sustainable development;

3. *Invites* Member States to recognize the links between the promotion of universal health coverage and other foreign policy issues, such as the social dimension of globalization, cohesion and stability, inclusive and equitable growth and sustainable development and sustainability of national financing mechanisms, and the importance of universal coverage in national health systems, especially through primary health-care and social protection mechanisms, including nationally determined social protection floors;

4. *Also invites* Member States to adopt a multisectoral approach and to work on determinants of health within sectors including, as appropriate, through the health-in-all-policies approach, while taking into consideration the social, environmental and economic determinants of health, with a view to reducing health inequities and enabling sustainable development, and stresses the urgent need to act on social determinants for the final push towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to value the contribution of universal health coverage to achieving all interrelated Millennium Development Goals, with the ultimate outcome of more healthy lives, particularly for women and children;

6. *Recognizes* that, although countries have realized important achievements, all countries have scope for further improvements in their health financing policies to enhance and sustain more efficient, equitable, inclusive and high-quality health systems for their populations, and that health financing systems in many countries need to be further developed in order to provide access to necessary services while providing protection against financial risk;

7. *Reaffirms* the leading role of the World Health Organization and the important role of the United Nations system in enhancing the visibility of health issues in the different international forums and in supporting Member States in responding to the challenges of the implementation of universal health coverage;

**Social protection and universal health coverage**

8. *Recognizes* the responsibility of Governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services;

9. *Also recognizes* that effective and financially sustainable implementation of universal health coverage is based on a resilient and responsive health system that provides comprehensive primary health-care services, with

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[237] A/[illegible]1, annex.

[238] A/65/538, annex.

[239] A/67/377.

extensive geographical coverage, including in remote and rural areas, and with a special emphasis on access to populations most in need, and has an adequate skilled, well-trained and motivated workforce, as well as capacities for broad public health measures, health protection and addressing determinants of health through policies across sectors, including promoting the health literacy of the population;

10. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people have access, without discrimination, to nationally determined sets of the promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services needed and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the users to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population;

11. *Recognizes* that the provision of universal health coverage requires full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,[236] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[233] and the outcomes of their review conferences, including the commitments relating to sexual and reproductive health and the promotion and protection of all human rights in this context, and emphasizes the need for the provision of universal access to reproductive health, including family planning and sexual health, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes;

12. *Also recognizes* that the provision of universal health coverage is mutually reinforcing with the implementation of the political declaration on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases[229] and the political declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS;[230]

13. *Acknowledges* that governance to move towards universal health coverage involves transparent and inclusive and equitable decision-making processes that allow for the input of all stakeholders and develop policies that perform effectively and reach clear and measurable outcomes for all, build accountability and, most crucially, are fair in both policy development processes and results;

14. *Recognizes* that it is essential to take into consideration the needs of vulnerable segments of society, including the poorest and marginalized segments of the population, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, in accordance with the principle of social inclusion, in order to enhance their ability to realize their right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

15. *Urges* Governments, civil society organizations and international organizations to promote the inclusion of universal health coverage as an important element on the international development agenda and in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as a means of promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable growth, social cohesion and well-being of the population and achieving other milestones for social development, such as education, work income and household financial security;

### Sustainable financing mechanisms for universal health coverage

16. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure that health financing systems evolve so as to avoid significant direct payments at the point of delivery and include a method for prepayment of financial contributions for health care and services as well as a mechanism to pool risks among the population in order to avoid catastrophic health-care expenditure and impoverishment of individuals as a result of seeking the care needed;

17. *Acknowledges* that the choice of a health financing system should be made within the particular context of each country;

18. *Recognizes* that improving social protection towards universal coverage is an investment in people that empowers them to adjust to changes in the economy and in the labour market and helps to support a transition to a more sustainable, inclusive and equitable economy;

19. *Emphasizes* that Governments should provide those who do not have sufficient means with the necessary financial risk protection and health-care facilities without discrimination;

20. *Recognizes* the important role of national and subnational legislative and executive bodies, as applicable, in further reforms of health financing systems with a view to moving towards universal health coverage;

21. *Encourages* Member States, in collaboration with other stakeholders where applicable, to plan or pursue the transition of their health systems towards universal coverage, while continuing to invest in and strengthen health-delivery systems to increase and safeguard the range and quality of services and to adequately meet the health needs of the population;

22. *Calls for* strengthening collaboration among Member States, in particular through the World Health Organization, through technical assistance and the sharing of best practices as well as working with partners, including civil society, to promote effective implementation of universal health coverage on the basis of solidarity at national and international levels;

23. *Acknowledges* that when managing the transition of the health system to universal coverage, each option will need to be developed within the particular epidemiological, economic, sociocultural, political and structural context of each country in accordance with the principle of national ownership;

**Follow-up actions**

24. *Urges* Member States[240] to continue to consider health issues in the formulation of foreign policy;

25. *Recommends* that consideration be given to including universal health coverage in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda in the context of global health challenges;

26. *Calls upon* the Economic and Social Council to consider the issue of universal health coverage as part of its 2013 programme of work, with the participation of the World Health Organization, the World Bank, other relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders, within existing resources;

27. *Decides* to continue consultations on the promotion of universal health coverage, regionally and globally, including on the possibility of convening a high-level meeting of the General Assembly;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization and with the participation of relevant programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and in consultation with Member States, to give high priority to universal health coverage and its links to social protection floors within their social programmes and policies;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Global health and foreign policy", a report which compiles and analyses past and current experiences of Member States in the way they succeed in implementing universal health coverage, including links to nationally determined social protection floors, and in sharing, establishing and strengthening institutional capacity in order to generate country-level evidence-based policy decision-making on the design of universal health coverage systems, including tracking the flows of health expenditure through the application of standard accounting frameworks.

## RESOLUTION 67/82

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.33 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Georgia, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay

### 67/82. Addressing the socioeconomic needs of individuals, families and societies affected by autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome[241] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[242] as well as the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

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[240] And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

[241] Resolution 60/1.

[242] Resolution 55/2.

*Recalling* the Declaration of Alma-Ata, the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion, 1986, and subsequent relevant resolutions of the World Health Assembly and regional committees,

*Recalling also* the Convention on the Rights of the Child[243] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[244] according to which individuals with disabilities should enjoy a full and decent life, in conditions which ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the individual's active participation in the community, as well as the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other individuals,

*Recognizing* the need to promote and protect the human rights of all persons with disabilities, including all individuals with autism spectrum disorders, by, inter alia, ensuring equal opportunities to achieve their optimal developmental potential and to participate in society,

*Recognizing also* the important contribution that non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors can make in promoting human rights for persons with disabilities, including all individuals with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities, and their integration in societies, as well as addressing the socioeconomic needs of their families and communities,

*Reaffirming* the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed their full enjoyment without discrimination,

*Affirming* that ensuring and promoting the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons with disabilities, without distinction, is critical to achieving internationally agreed development goals,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/124 of 19 December 2011, by which it decided to convene a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, on 23 September 2013, with the overarching theme "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond", which shall be funded within existing resources, in order to strengthen efforts to ensure accessibility for and the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of development efforts,

*Aware* that autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects the functioning of the brain, characterized by impairments in social interaction, problems with verbal and non-verbal communication and restricted, repetitive behaviour, interests and activities,

*Aware also* that the vast variety of needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities poses a substantial challenge to addressing the disability and providing the appropriate services for treatment and care by government and non-governmental organizations,

*Deeply concerned* that children with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities in all regions of the world experience challenges in accessing long-term health care, education, training and intervention programmes undertaken by Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector,

*Concerned* that persons with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities continue to face barriers in their participation as equal members of society, and reaffirming that discrimination against any person on the basis of disability is a violation of the inherent dignity and worth of the human person,

*Recalling* that early diagnosis, appropriate research and effective interventions are vital to the growth and development of the individual, and emphasizing that early intervention is crucial for addressing the needs of the individual with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities, thus improving the opportunities to live a quality life with the ability to participate in the greater community and increasing the likelihood that an individual will need lower levels of support later in life,

*Recognizing* that the full enjoyment by persons with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities of their human rights and their full participation will result in significant advances in the social and economic development of societies and communities,

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[243] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[244] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

*Realizing* that the challenge of meeting the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities is particularly acute in the developing world, resulting in increased difficulties for individuals and their families, as well as for the health, education and social welfare systems trying to meet their needs,

*Recognizing* the work of the World Health Organization in addressing autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities in its resolutions, notably through resolution 65.4 entitled "The global burden of mental disorders and the need for a comprehensive, coordinated response from health and social sectors at the country level", adopted on 25 May 2012 by the sixty-fifth World Health Assembly, requesting the Director General of the Organization to develop a comprehensive mental health action plan, for consideration by the sixty-sixth World Health Assembly,[245]

*Recognizing also* that a major barrier to improving the health and well-being of children with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities and their families is the paucity of knowledge and expertise to recognize symptoms and identify autism spectrum disorders, and also recognizing that the absence of effective routine screening that allows for early detection, in turn, limits access to care and early interventions and that, without research to develop and implement effective programmes, the emergence of appropriate solutions that improve the quality of life for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families does not occur,

*Acknowledging* efforts to increase awareness of the rights of those affected by autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities, including the commemoration of World Autism Awareness Day, which led to increased international public concern for autism and other developmental disabilities,

*Taking note* of the Dhaka Declaration on Autism Spectrum Disorders and Developmental Disabilities of 25 July 2011,

1. *Encourages* Member States to enhance access to appropriate support services and equal opportunities for inclusion and participation in society by providing, as appropriate, training to public administrators, service providers, carers, caregivers, families and non-professionals on the needs and rights of persons with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities;

2. *Recognizes* that, in order to develop and implement feasible, effective and sustainable intervention programmes for addressing autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities, an innovative, integrated approach would benefit from a focus, inter alia, on:

(*a*) Increasing public and professional awareness of autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities and reducing stigma associated with these conditions;

(*b*) Enhancing and increasing research expertise and service delivery, including through international collaboration, by training researchers, service providers, as well as non-professionals, in early diagnosis and interventions within health and other relevant sectors;

(*c*) Enhancing inclusive educational programmes suited to infants, children and adults with autism;

(*d*) Emphasizing the unique needs of each person with autism across a spectrum of different characteristics and experiences;

(*e*) Increasing awareness of the advantages of the inclusion of individuals with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities in society through occupational and leisure activities;

3. *Encourages* Member States to undertake to collect appropriate information, including disaggregated statistical and research data, on autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities;

4. *Looks forward* to the development of the World Health Organization comprehensive mental health action plan, as called for in World Health Assembly resolution 65.4, and its consideration of autism spectrum disorders in the context of a broader systems approach;

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[245] See World Health Organization, document WHA65/2012/REC/1.

5. *Calls upon* all States to ensure an inclusive education system at all levels and lifelong learning, as well as to promote vocational training and skills development programmes for persons with autism, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[244] and other local, national and regional policies;

6. *Also calls upon* all States to enable persons with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disorders and associated disabilities to learn life and social development skills to facilitate their full and equal participation in education and as members of the community;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and United Nations organizations as a contribution to the preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities, to be held on 23 September 2013.

## RESOLUTION 67/83

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.14/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

### 67/83. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

*Recalling also* its resolution 44/6 of 17 October 1989, in which it granted the Council of Europe a standing invitation to participate as an observer in its sessions and work, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,[246]

*Acknowledging* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law through its standards, principles and monitoring mechanisms, as well as to the effective implementation of relevant international legal instruments of the United Nations,

*Acknowledging also* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the development of international law, and noting the openness of the Council of Europe to the participation of States of other regions in its legal instruments,

*Welcoming* the role of the Council of Europe in building a united Europe without dividing lines, and the contribution of the Council of Europe to cohesion, stability and security in Europe,

*Commending* the increasing contribution of the Council of Europe, including at the parliamentary level, to democratic transition in its neighbouring regions aimed at promoting democratic institutions and procedures, and welcoming the readiness of the Council of Europe to further share its experience in democracy-building with interested countries on the basis of a demand-driven approach,

*Welcoming* the increasingly close relations between the United Nations and the Council of Europe and the opening of the Permanent Delegation of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Office at Geneva and at Vienna, and commending the contribution of those delegations to the enhancement of cooperation and the achievement of greater synergy between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

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[246] Resolutions 55/3, 56/43, 57/156, 59/139, 61/13, 63/14 and 65/130.

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,[247]

1. *Reiterates its call for* the reinforcement of cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe regarding the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the promotion of democracy and the rule of law, inter alia, the prevention of torture, the fight against terrorism and trafficking in human beings, the fight against racism, discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, the promotion of religious freedom and the defence of religious minorities, the protection of the rights and dignity of all members of society, including children, the elderly, migrants and persons belonging to minorities, the promotion of gender equality and the promotion of human rights education;

2. *Confirms its recognition* of the key role of the European Court of Human Rights in ensuring effective human rights protection under the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for the 800 million citizens in the 47 States members of the Council of Europe, and notes with interest the efforts to guarantee the long-term effectiveness of the Court system and to ensure the rapid and effective execution of Court judgments, as well as the ongoing work aiming at accession of the European Union to the Convention;

3. *Recognizes* the important role of the Council of Europe in upholding the rule of law and fighting impunity, including by strengthening the capacity of the national judiciaries of its member States to carry out their work consistent with the relevant international obligations of the member States in particular, and where applicable, those defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[248]

4. *Also recognizes* the role of the revised European Social Charter and of the European Committee of Social Rights in protecting economic and social rights, notes the complementarities of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[249] and the Council of Europe Disability Action Plan 2006–2015, and confirms its support for cooperation between the two organizations with respect to the eradication of poverty, the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, the fight against maternal and child mortality, encouraging the integration of migrants and refugees, strengthening social cohesion and ensuring the protection of economic, social and cultural rights for all;

5. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations, including the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, and the Council of Europe, including its Commissioner for Human Rights, with regard to promoting respect for human rights;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the contribution of the Council of Europe to the enhancement of cooperation between international and regional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, and in this context welcomes, in particular, the contribution of the Council of Europe to the universal periodic review regarding the situation of human rights in States members of the Council of Europe;

7. *Encourages* further cooperation, where appropriate, between the United Nations and the Council of Europe through their mechanisms on the prevention of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and supports the development of cooperation in the penitentiary field, namely with regard to consideration by Member States of updating the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners[250] and in combating prison overcrowding;

8. *Encourages* the Council of Europe to continue cooperation with the United Nations in the fight against trafficking in persons, recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings is open for accession by all States, takes note with interest of the results of the monitoring activities carried out by the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and by the Committee of the Parties to the Convention;

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[247] A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. II.

[248] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[249] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[250] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, Volume I (First Part), *Universal Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIV.4 (Vol. I, Part 1)), sect. J, No. 34.

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ongoing elaboration by the Council of Europe of a convention against trafficking in human organs and a possible protocol thereto against trafficking in human tissues and cells, as a follow-up to the joint Council of Europe/United Nations study on trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs, and encourages further cooperation in this field;

10. *Welcomes and encourages* the close collaboration between the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Council of Europe to protect and promote the rights of the child, takes note of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2012–2015) promoting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[251] in its member States, and in this context recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse is open for accession by all States, and supports the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE campaign to stop sexual violence against children;

11. *Welcomes* the reinforced action of the Council of Europe to promote the social inclusion and respect for human rights of the Roma, and encourages further cooperation between the two organizations in this field;

12. *Also welcomes* the strengthening of agreed and specified cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), encourages both bodies to pursue the development of a fruitful collaboration in eliminating violence against women and the achievement of de facto gender equality, and in this context recognizes the important contribution that the new Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, which is open for accession by all States, will make in eradicating this scourge;

13. *Encourages* continuing cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Council of Europe, in particular in the protection and promotion of the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, and in the prevention and reduction of statelessness, and recognizes the importance of the interface offered by the presence at the Council of Europe of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, as well as by the Permanent Delegation of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Office at Geneva;

14. *Recognizes* the continuing close liaison and fruitful cooperation between United Nations missions and the field offices of the Council of Europe;

15. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the area of democracy and good governance, including through active participation in the Strasbourg World Forum for Democracy and engagement with youth representatives and civil society, as appropriate, and the strengthening of the links between the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and the Council of Europe Project on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights, and in this context welcomes the contribution of the Conference of International Non-governmental Organisations of the Council of Europe to those activities;

16. *Notes* the important role of the United Nations Development Programme and the Council of Europe in supporting good local democratic governance, as well as the fruitful cooperation between them, encourages further deepening of the cooperation following the signature in February 2010 of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Council of Europe in this field, and calls for enhanced cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in the field of sustainable urban governance;

17. *Takes note* of the contribution of the Council of Europe in protecting and promoting all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to freedom of expression and opinion and the freedom of the media, and encourages further cooperation between the Council of Europe and relevant United Nations agencies in this regard, in particular with regard to the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity;

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[251] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

18. *Reaffirms* that the development of the information society and the Internet must protect and respect freedom of expression, as well as privacy rights, including as they relate to data protection, while recognizing lawful restrictions as set out in national legislation in accordance with international human rights law, acknowledges the importance of the work of the Council of Europe in protecting those rights, takes note of its Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data, which is open for accession by all States, and encourages further cooperation in these areas between relevant United Nations agencies and the Council of Europe as appropriate;

19. *Welcomes and encourages* the close cooperation between the two organizations in the fight against transnational organized crime, cybercrime, terrorism and money-laundering, as well as in the protection of the rights of victims of such crimes, and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime and the Additional Protocol thereto, the recently adopted Council of Europe Convention on the Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Crimes Involving Threats to Public Health, as well as several other relevant Council of Europe conventions, are open for accession by all States;

20. *Welcomes and supports* the cooperation between the respective mechanisms concerning the prevention of and the fight against corruption, notably by reviewing and mutually reinforcing the implementation of international anti-corruption standards;

21. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Council of Europe to the promotion of the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[252] and the collaboration between their respective mechanisms regarding the fight against terrorism, including the financing of terrorism, in full respect of human rights and the rule of law, and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism and Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism are open for accession by all States;

22. *Also welcomes* the continued cooperation of the Council of Europe, where appropriate and in accordance with international drug control conventions, with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board in the fight against drug abuse and drug trafficking, and notes the role played by the Pompidou Group in this regard;

23. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly and the International Law Commission;

24. *Notes* the cooperation established between the Alliance of Civilizations and the Council of Europe following their signature of a memorandum of understanding on 29 September 2008 and the accession of the Alliance of Civilizations to the Faro Platform, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Alliance of Civilizations on the one hand, and the Council of Europe and its North-South Centre on the other, to pursue their developing and fruitful collaboration in the field of intercultural dialogue;

25. *Also notes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the field of education, and encourages the extension of this cooperation, which should continue to focus on the role of education in developing just and humane societies characterized by the participation of individuals and the ability of individuals and societies to conduct intercultural dialogue, as well as on the encouragement of the diversity of cultural expressions;

26. *Requests* the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Council of Europe to combine their efforts in seeking answers to global challenges, within their respective mandates, and calls upon all relevant United Nations bodies to support the enhancement of cooperation with the Council of Europe;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation

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[252] Resolution 60/288.

between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/84

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 13 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.32 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### 67/84. Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 50/19 of 28 November 1995, 52/171 of 16 December 1997, 54/98 of 8 December 1999, 56/102 of 14 December 2001, 58/118 of 17 December 2003, 61/220 of 20 December 2006 and 64/75 of 7 December 2009,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 47/168 of 22 December 1992, 48/57 of 14 December 1993, 49/139 B of 20 December 1994, 50/57 of 12 December 1995 and 51/194 of 17 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1995/56 of 28 July 1995 and 1996/33 of 25 July 1996,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/67 of 5 December 2011 on the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers,

*Emphasizing* the need for coordination between relief and development activities in the context of humanitarian emergencies, taking into account the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[253]

*Recognizing* the importance of mobilizing the scientific and technical know-how of the international community to assist local communities within a framework of comprehensive disaster risk reduction, bearing in mind the positive impact of technology transfer to developing countries in this field,

*Recognizing also* the responsibility of the United Nations system in the promotion of international cooperation to prevent and mitigate disasters and to provide and coordinate assistance and rehabilitation measures aimed at building resilient communities, and highlighting the leading role of the Secretary-General in this regard,

*Recognizing further* that the international community, in addressing the growing magnitude and complexity of disasters and chronic challenges, such as hunger, malnutrition and poverty, must rely on the formulation of a well-coordinated global response within the framework of the United Nations and on the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

*Recognizing* that the White Helmets initiative has demonstrated the potential of regional partnerships and encouraged the participation of affected or vulnerable populations in the tasks of planning, training, mobilizing and providing an immediate response in disaster situations and complex emergencies,

*Emphasizing* the need to integrate a gender perspective in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster risk reduction,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, in particular section VI.B thereof, prepared pursuant to resolution 46/182 and submitted in response to resolution 64/75;[254]

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[253] Resolution 55/2.

[254] A/67/89-E/2012/77.

2. *Recognizes* the efforts being made by the White Helmets initiative to strengthen national, subregional and regional agreements in Latin America and the Caribbean;

3. *Also recognizes* the work done by the White Helmets in coordination with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to promote the interchange of humanitarian experiences and best practices among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Takes note* of the work done by the White Helmets in strengthening subregional mechanisms for disaster risk reduction, including support to the Forum on Cooperation and Coordination of Subregional Mechanisms for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas;

5. *Recognizes* the work undertaken with the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to strengthen the disaster risk reduction agenda and generate practical tools for the campaign entitled "Making Cities Resilient: My city is getting ready", and encourages all relevant stakeholders to participate actively in the consultation process leading to the post-2015 disaster risk reduction framework;

6. *Notes* the emphasis placed on the development of mechanisms to facilitate the local management of humanitarian emergencies through the organization, participatory involvement and empowerment of affected communities and the training of the members of local volunteer corps;

7. *Commends* the contributions of national and international volunteers for their fundamental role in disaster risk reduction, response and recovery;

8. *Takes note* of the agreement signed in 2012 between the United Nations Volunteers and the White Helmets Commission, which will allow for continuation of the joint work launched in 1995, and invites Member States in a position to do so to consider means of supporting collaboration of the White Helmets with their programme activities and to consider making financial resources available to the Special Voluntary Fund of the United Nations Volunteers;

9. *Also takes note* of the memorandum of understanding signed in 2011 between the White Helmets and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees that established the framework for the deployment of White Helmets volunteers in support of the High Commissioner's emergency operations;

10. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the World Food Programme and the White Helmets to coordinate integration mechanisms that allow for joint action within the framework of food security, on the basis of their general agreements of 1998, including the exchange of information among stakeholders in the field;

11. *Also recognizes* the international humanitarian activities that the White Helmets developed in the period from 2010 to 2012 in coordination with the national authorities of disaster-affected countries and the agencies of the United Nations system and its partners;

12. *Notes* the work of the White Helmets initiative in assisting the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to promote greater legal preparedness for international disaster assistance in the Americas;

13. *Encourages* operational partners of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Volunteers and the World Health Organization, in providing psychosocial support to the disaster-affected population in emergency and disaster situations, to draw, as appropriate, on the voluntary expertise of the White Helmets, which has been successfully tested, and invites Member States to consider means of integrating the White Helmets initiative into their programme activities;

14. *Encourages* the White Helmets to continue to enhance coordination with the international humanitarian system and to explore mechanisms for sharing best practices on disaster response and preparedness with other regional organizations in disaster-prone areas, in an effort to improve the coordination of humanitarian assistance provided by the United Nations in emergency situations;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the experience acquired, to continue to consider the use of the White Helmets initiative as a resource suitable for preventing and mitigating the effects of humanitarian disaster situations;

16. *Also invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the work experience acquired by White Helmets in the international field, as recognized in various resolutions of the General Assembly, and in view of the success of coordinated actions carried out with, inter alia, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization

of the United Nations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Volunteers, to suggest measures to enhance the collaboration of the White Helmets initiative with the United Nations system and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventieth session in a separate section of the annual report on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

## RESOLUTION 67/85

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 13 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.37 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### 67/85. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution 66/117 of 15 December 2011, as well as Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003 and relevant statements by the President of the Council,

*Recalling also* all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict,

*Recalling further* all relevant provisions of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as all relevant treaties,[255]

*Reaffirming* the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law,

*Reaffirming also* the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Recalling* that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

*Expressing its appreciation* to those Governments which respect the internationally agreed principles on the protection of humanitarian and United Nations personnel, while expressing concern over the lack of respect for these principles in some areas,

*Urging* all parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[256] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,[257] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

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[255] These include, notably, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947, the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 8 December 2005, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 8 June 1977, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996 to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980.

[256] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

*Welcoming* the fact that the number of States parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[258] which entered into force on 15 January 1999, has continued to rise, the number now having reached 90, mindful of the need to promote the universality of the Convention, and welcoming the entry into force on 19 August 2010 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[259] which expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention,

*Deeply concerned* by the dangers and safety and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel at the field level, as they operate in increasingly complex contexts, as well as the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international law, in particular international humanitarian law,

*Stressing* the importance of fully respecting the obligations relating to the use of vehicles and premises of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as defined by relevant international instruments, as well as the obligations relating to distinctive emblems recognized in the Geneva Conventions,

*Commending* the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, often at great personal risk, especially locally recruited staff,

*Noting* that, in 2011, 1,759 persons, representing 1.2 per cent of United Nations system personnel, were affected by significant security incidents,[260] and gravely concerned by the marked increase in the number of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel affected by safety and security incidents, including an unprecedented increase in abductions in the first six months of 2012,

*Expressing concern* that aviation incidents were the primary cause of safety-related deaths of United Nations personnel in 2011,

*Expressing profound regret* at the deaths of and violent acts against international and national humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and strongly deploring the casualties among such personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

*Expressing deep concern* at the deep and long-lasting impacts of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

*Strongly condemning* acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children, and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property,

*Expressing deep concern* that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the provision of assistance and protection to populations in need,

*Affirming* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity, and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law,

*Recalling* the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[261] and noting the role that the Court can play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

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[257] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[258] Ibid., vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[259] Resolution 60/42, annex.

[260] A/67/492, para. 9.

[261] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

*Reaffirming* the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and associated humanitarian personnel, including locally recruited staff, which constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, and mindful of the need to promote and enhance security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations and a culture of accountability at all levels, as well as to continue to promote awareness of and sensitivity to national and local cultures and laws,

*Gravely concerned* at the high number of accidents and resulting casualties among United Nations and associated personnel, and conscious of the importance of road safety in ensuring the continuity of United Nations humanitarian operations and preventing casualties among civilians and United Nations and associated personnel, and in this regard regretting the loss of civilian life as a result of such incidents,

*Stressing* that acceptance of United Nations and associated personnel by the host Governments, local authorities and populations contributes to their safety and security,

*Noting* the importance of reinforcing close collaboration between the United Nations and the host country on contingency planning, information exchange and risk assessment in the context of good mutual cooperation on issues relating to the security of United Nations and associated personnel,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel;[262]

2. *Urges* all States to make every effort to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow those personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

5. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments;

6. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[261]

7. *Further calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[259] and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation;

8. *Calls upon* all States, all parties involved in armed conflict and all humanitarian actors to respect the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

9. *Expresses deep concern* over the continued increase in threats to and deliberate targeting of and the disturbing trend of politically or criminally motivated attacks against the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;

10. *Welcomes* the contribution of female United Nations and associated personnel in United Nations humanitarian operations, expresses concern that in some cases these personnel are relatively more exposed to certain forms of crime and acts of intimidation and harassment, and strongly urges the United Nations system and Member States to take appropriate and gender-sensitive action for their safety and security;

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[262] A/67/492.

11. *Strongly condemns* all threats and acts of violence against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, reaffirms the need to hold accountable those responsible for such acts, strongly urges all States to take stronger action to ensure that any such acts committed on their territory are investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with national laws and obligations under international law, and urges States to end impunity for such acts;

12. *Stresses* the importance of continued close coordination and consultation with host Governments on the functioning of the security level system and related tools, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to continue to consult with the host Governments;

13. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with their obligations under international humanitarian law, including as provided by the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[263] in order to respect and protect civilians, including humanitarian personnel, in territories subject to their jurisdiction;

14. *Also calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel, so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

15. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflict to refrain from abducting, taking hostage or kidnapping humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or detaining them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to promote full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, and also requests the Secretary-General to seek the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[264] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[265] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[258]

17. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission, host country and other related agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

18. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to respect and, where required, observe the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

19. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are aware of and sensitive to national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with the minimum operating security standards and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the

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[263] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[264] Resolution 22 A (I).

[265] Resolution 179 (II).

standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national laws and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in coordination with Member States, to take the necessary measures to ensure that all United Nations premises and assets, including staff residences, are compliant with the United Nations minimum operating security standards and other relevant United Nations security standards;

22. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel receive adequate safety and security training, stresses the need to continue to improve training so as to enhance cultural awareness and knowledge of relevant law, including international humanitarian law, prior to their deployment to the field, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

23. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to provide counselling and support services to United Nations personnel affected by safety and security incidents, and emphasizes the importance of making available stress management, mental health and related services for United Nations personnel throughout the system, and encourages all humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

24. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing measures taken by the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to enhance road safety, including through improved training and initiatives to promote road safety so as to reduce incidents caused by road hazards, and requests the Secretary-General to continue the collection and analysis of data and to report on road incidents, including civilian casualties resulting from road accidents;

25. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations and supports the focus on enabling the United Nations system to deliver its mandates, programmes and activities by effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed, and encourages the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include as part of their risk-management strategy the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and the promotion of acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors;

26. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue developing enabling procedures that facilitate the deployment of suitably qualified United Nations security personnel, with the aim of improving the safety and security measures of the United Nations, in order to strengthen the ability of the United Nations to deliver on its programmes, mandates and activities, including humanitarian programmes;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General, inter alia through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue the increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, and calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts;

28. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to make every effort to support in their public statements a favourable environment for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;

29. *Emphasizes* the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties, including in cases of kidnapping, harassment, banditry and intimidation, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant United Nations safety and security policy, operational and administrative arrangements related to locally recruited personnel, and calls upon the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to ensure that their personnel are adequately consulted on, informed about and trained in the relevant security measures, plans and initiatives of their respective organizations, which should be in line with applicable national laws and international law;

30. *Notes with appreciation* the progress reported in implementing the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Safety and Security of United Nations Personnel and Premises Worldwide;

31. *Requests* the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat to further strengthen the analysis of threats and to continue to improve and implement an effective, modern and flexible information management capacity in support of analytical and operational requirements, including the ongoing system-wide analysis of best

practices and information on the range and scope of safety and security incidents involving humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including attacks against them, in order to make objective and evidence-based decisions on how to reduce the risks arising in the context of United Nations related operations;

32. *Welcomes* the work of the Secretary-General in enhancing security collaboration with host Governments, including efforts to support United Nations designated officials with regard to collaboration with host Government authorities on staff safety and security;

33. *Stresses* that the effective functioning at the country level of security operations requires a unified capacity for policy, standards, coordination, communication, compliance and threat and risk assessment, and notes the benefits thereof to United Nations and associated personnel, including those achieved by the Department of Safety and Security since its establishment;

34. *Recognizes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far, encourages further efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation, at both the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, taking into account the "Saving Lives Together" framework as well as other relevant national and local initiatives in this regard, and also encourages collaborative initiatives to address the security needs of its implementing partners, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard;

35. *Underlines* the urgent need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, through regular and extrabudgetary resources, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the Department of Safety and Security to meet its mandate and responsibilities to enable the safe delivery of programmes;

36. *Also underlines* the need for better coordination between the United Nations and host Governments, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, on the use and deployment of essential equipment required to provide for the safety and security of United Nations personnel and associated personnel working in the delivery of humanitarian assistance by United Nations organizations;

37. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunications resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, calls upon States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998,[266] which entered into force on 8 January 2005, and urges them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and international obligations applicable to them, the use of communications equipment in such operations, inter alia, by limiting and, whenever possible, expeditiously lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and associated personnel;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution, including an assessment of the development, implementation and outcomes of policies, strategies and initiatives of the United Nations system in the field of safety and security.

## RESOLUTION 67/86

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 13 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.38 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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[266] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

## 67/86. Assistance to the Palestinian people

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/118 of 15 December 2011, as well as its previous resolutions on the question,

*Recalling also* the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[267] and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

*Recalling further* all relevant international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and, in particular, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[268] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[268] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[269] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[270]

*Gravely concerned* at the difficult living conditions and humanitarian situation affecting the Palestinian people, in particular women and children, throughout the occupied Palestinian territory,

*Conscious* of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

*Welcoming*, in this context, the development of projects, notably on infrastructure, to revive the Palestinian economy and improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people, stressing the need to create the appropriate conditions to facilitate the implementation of these projects, and noting the contribution of partners in the region and of the international community,

*Aware* that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

*Noting* the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the safety and well-being of all people, in particular women and children, in the whole Middle East region, the promotion of which is facilitated, inter alia, in a stable and secure environment,

*Deeply concerned* about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

*Conscious* of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

*Expressing grave concern* about the humanitarian situation in Gaza, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance,

*Welcoming* the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

*Underlining* the importance of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, in addressing the immediate humanitarian situation in Gaza and in mobilizing donors to provide financial and political support for the Palestinian Authority in order to alleviate the socioeconomic and humanitarian situation being faced by the Palestinian people,

*Recalling* the International Donors Conference for the Palestinian State, held in Paris on 17 December 2007, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, held on 24 June 2008, and the Palestine Investment Conferences, held in Bethlehem from 21 to 23 May 2008 and on 2 and 3 June 2010,

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[267] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[268] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[269] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[270] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

*Welcoming* the latest meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, held in Brussels on 21 March 2012 and in New York on 23 September 2012,

*Welcoming also* the activities of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

*Welcoming further* the implementation of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2011–2013 on governance, economy, social development and infrastructure, and stressing the need for continued international support for the Palestinian State-building process, as outlined in the summary of the Chair of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held on 23 September 2012,

*Stressing* the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people,

*Welcoming* recent steps to ease the restrictions on movement and access in the West Bank, while stressing the need for further steps to be taken in this regard, and recognizing that such steps would improve living conditions and the situation on the ground and could promote further Palestinian economic development,

*Acknowledging* the measures announced by Israel regarding access to the Gaza Strip, while calling for full implementation and complementary measures that address the need for a fundamental change in policy that allows for the sustained and regular opening of the border crossings for the movement of persons and goods, including for the reconstruction and economic recovery of Gaza,

*Welcoming* the action of the Special Representative of the Quartet, Mr. Tony Blair, charged with developing, with the Government of the Palestinian Authority, a multi-year agenda to strengthen institutions, promote economic development and mobilize international funds,

*Stressing* the urgency of reaching a durable solution to the crisis in Gaza through the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009,

*Stressing also* the importance of the regular opening of the crossings for the movement of persons and goods, for both humanitarian and commercial flows,

*Noting* the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

*Welcoming* the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, of the performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[271] and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

*Commending* the efforts within the Quartet made by the United States of America, the European Union, the United Nations and the Russian Federation in pursuing vigorously a two-State solution, noting the commitment of the Quartet to remain actively involved and the need for strong international support to promote the peace process, and calling for the resumption and acceleration of negotiations between the Israeli and Palestinian sides towards a comprehensive resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions and the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, in order to ensure a political solution, with two States — Israel and an independent, democratic, contiguous and viable Palestinian State — living side by side in peace and security,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[272]

*Expressing grave concern* about continuing violence against civilians,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[272]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

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[271] S/2003/529, annex.

[272] A/67/84-E/2012/68.

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians of 21 March 2012 and 23 September 2012 and the outcome of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, at which donors pledged approximately 4.5 billion United States dollars to support the needs of the Palestinian people;

7. *Recalls* the International Donors Conference for the Palestinian State, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, and the Palestine Investment Conferences;

8. *Stresses* the importance of following up on the results of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza;

9. *Calls upon* donors that have not yet converted their budget support pledges into disbursements to transfer funds as soon as possible, encourages all donors to increase their direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority in accordance with its government programme in order to enable it to build a viable and prosperous Palestinian State, underlines the need for equitable burden-sharing by donors in this effort, and encourages donors to consider aligning funding cycles with the Palestinian Authority's national budget cycle;

10. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and recognizes the vital role of the Agency in providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the difficult humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women, children and their families and to help in the reconstruction and development of relevant Palestinian institutions;

13. *Stresses* the role that all funding instruments, including the European Commission's Palestinian-European Mechanism for the Management of Socio-Economic Aid and the World Bank trust fund, have been playing in directly assisting the Palestinian people;

14. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

15. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

16. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring free humanitarian access to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

17. *Also stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population, as well as for imports and exports, within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;

18. *Further stresses* the need to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, premises, facilities, equipment, vehicles and supplies, as well as the need to ensure safe and unhindered access by humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations;

19. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend to the Palestinian people, as rapidly as possible, emergency economic assistance and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to counter the impact of the current crisis;

20. *Stresses* the need for the continued implementation of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[273] including with regard to the full, prompt and regular transfer of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

## RESOLUTION 67/87

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 13 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.39 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### 67/87. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

*Noting* the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations[274] and on the Central Emergency Response Fund,[275]

*Reaffirming* the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming also the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect these principles,

*Deeply concerned* about global challenges such as the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis and the negative impact of the excessively volatile food prices on food security and nutrition and about their effect on the increasing vulnerability of populations and the impact on the need for and provision of humanitarian assistance,

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[273] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[274] A/67/89-E/2012/77.

[275] A/67/361.

*Emphasizing* the need to mobilize adequate, predictable, timely and flexible resources for humanitarian assistance based on and in proportion to assessed needs, with a view to ensuring fuller coverage of the needs in all sectors and across humanitarian emergencies, and recognizing, in this regard, the achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund,

*Reiterating* the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance, including by addressing the specific needs of women, girls, boys and men in a comprehensive and consistent manner, and to take into account the needs of affected populations, including persons with disabilities,

*Expressing its deep concern* about the increasing challenges faced by Member States and the United Nations humanitarian response system and their capacities as a result of the consequences of natural disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, and reaffirming the importance of implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[276] inter alia, by providing adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, including investment in disaster preparedness, and by working towards building back better in all phases from relief to development,

*Recognizing* that building national and local preparedness and response capacity is critical to a more predictable and effective response and contributes to the achievement of humanitarian and development objectives, including enhanced resilience and a reduced need for humanitarian response,

*Emphasizing* that enhancing international cooperation on emergency humanitarian assistance is essential, and reaffirming its resolution 66/227 of 23 December 2011 on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters,

*Emphasizing also* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, reaffirming the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles,

*Condemning* the increasing number of deliberate threats and violent attacks against humanitarian personnel and facilities, including medical personnel and facilities, and noting the negative implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need,

*Recognizing* the high numbers of persons affected by humanitarian emergencies, including internally displaced persons, bearing in mind their particular needs, and welcoming in this regard the adoption and ongoing process of ratification of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative framework for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons in Africa,

*Recognizing also* the importance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[277] which include a vital legal framework for the protection of civilian persons in time of war, including the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Noting with grave concern* that violence, including gender-based violence, particularly sexual violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts that the United Nations continues to make to improve humanitarian response, including by strengthening humanitarian response capacities, improving humanitarian coordination, enhancing predictable and adequate funding and strengthening the accountability of all stakeholders, and recognizing the importance of strengthening emergency administrative procedures and funding to allow for an effective and needs-based response to emergencies,

*Recognizing* that, in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, United Nations organizations should continue to work in close coordination with national Governments,

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[276] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

[277] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

1. *Welcomes* the outcome of the fifteenth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2012;[278]

2. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue her efforts to strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance and leadership within the United Nations humanitarian response system, including through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Also requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to improve dialogue with all Member States on the relevant processes, activities and deliberations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

4. *Encourages* Member States and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to improve dialogue on humanitarian issues, including on policy, in order to foster a more consultative and inclusive approach to humanitarian assistance;

5. *Welcomes* the recent efforts by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts, in order to effectively cooperate to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the provision and coordination of humanitarian assistance at the global and field levels, including through existing cluster coordination mechanisms, and in support of national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing efficiency, transparency, performance and accountability;

7. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue strengthening the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including by providing necessary training, identifying resources and improving the identification of and the selection process for United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators, and enhancing their performance accountability;

9. *Calls upon* the Chair of the United Nations Development Group and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to enhance their consultations before presenting final recommendations on the selection process for resident coordinators in countries likely to require significant humanitarian response operations;

10. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to identify solutions to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Development Group to strengthen the resident coordinator system, on which the humanitarian coordinator system is based, in order to ensure the full implementation of the management and accountability system of the United Nations Development Group and the resident coordinator system;

11. *Recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need for enhancing the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

12. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[276] reiterates the importance of strengthening the effectiveness

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[278] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/67/3/Rev.1), chap. VII.

of national and local preparedness in line with priority five of the Framework for Action, and looks forward to the fourth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Geneva from 19 to 23 May 2013;

13. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to increase and commit adequate, timely, flexible and predictable resources for disaster risk reduction in order to build resilience, including through complementary humanitarian and development programming and by further strengthening national and local capacities to prepare for and respond to humanitarian emergencies, and furthermore encourages closer cooperation between national stakeholders and humanitarian and development actors in this regard;

14. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide a coordinated emergency response to the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that such steps are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security;

15. *Expresses concern* about the challenges related to, inter alia, safe access to and use of fuel, firewood, alternative energy, water and sanitation, shelter and food and health-care services in humanitarian emergencies, and takes note with appreciation of initiatives at the national and international levels that promote effective cooperation in this regard;

16. *Encourages* the international community, including relevant United Nations organizations and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters and to support efforts, as appropriate, to strengthen systems for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability and natural hazards;

17. *Welcomes* the growing number of initiatives undertaken at the regional and national levels to promote the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to take further steps to review and strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account the Guidelines, as appropriate, and welcomes the recent efforts of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to develop a model act on the subject;

18. *Encourages* States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and of national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in order to ensure better preparedness in providing timely, effective and predictable humanitarian assistance, and encourages the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide support to such efforts, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries and through support to programmes aimed at enhancing the coordination capacities of affected States;

19. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations, development partners, the private sector, donor countries and the affected State to enhance cooperation and coordination and to continue to utilize and develop appropriate tools with a view to planning and delivering humanitarian assistance in ways that strengthen resilience at the local/community, national and regional levels and are supportive of sustainable rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

20. *Encourages* the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream early recovery into humanitarian programming, acknowledges that early recovery should receive further funding, and encourages the provision of timely, flexible and predictable funding for early recovery, including through established humanitarian instruments;

21. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to examine their own financing mechanisms in order to improve, where possible, fast and flexible financing for preparedness, response and the transition from relief to recovery;

22. *Takes note* of the efforts of Member States, the United Nations system and the international community to strengthen preparedness and local, national and regional humanitarian response capacity, and calls upon the United Nations and relevant partners to continue support in this regard;

23. *Encourages* efforts to provide education in humanitarian emergencies, including in order to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

24. *Encourages* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to work with Member States and relevant United Nations entities to facilitate the exchange of information, including through mutually comprehensible data, to improve preparedness and humanitarian response;

25. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations to support the improvement of the consolidated appeals process, inter alia, by engaging in the preparation of common needs assessments and common humanitarian action plans, including through a better analysis of gender-related allocations, in order to further the development of the process, including by ensuring a more coordinated, timely and comprehensive overview of the needs and the common humanitarian action plans in a given emergency, as an instrument for United Nations strategic planning and prioritization, and by involving other relevant humanitarian organizations in the process, while reiterating that consolidated appeals should be prepared in consultation with affected States;

26. *Requests* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to ensure that all aspects of humanitarian response, including disaster preparedness and needs assessments, take into account the specific needs of the affected population, recognizing that giving appropriate consideration to, inter alia, gender, age and disability is part of a comprehensive and effective humanitarian response, and in this regard encourages efforts to ensure gender mainstreaming in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and to include the needs of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of disaster risk reduction, humanitarian and recovery programming and, as appropriate, post-humanitarian emergency reconstruction;

27. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of, and make further progress towards, common humanitarian needs assessments, including through improved collection, analysis and reporting of sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

28. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision of their humanitarian assistance, incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations so that their needs are appropriately addressed;

29. *Calls upon* donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to assessed needs, including for underfunded emergencies, to consider providing early and multi-year commitments to pooled humanitarian funds and to continue to support diverse humanitarian funding channels, encourages efforts to adhere to the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship,[279] and in this respect encourages the private sector, civil society and other relevant entities to make relevant contributions, complementary to those of other sources;

30. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund, and in this regard encourages the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to review and evaluate, where necessary, their partnership policies and practices in order to ensure the timely disbursement of funds from the Fund to implementing partners in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective, accountable and transparent manner possible;

31. *Calls upon* all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

32. *Reiterates* that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding, and calls upon all Member States to consider increasing voluntary contributions;

33. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

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[279] A/58/99-E/2003/94, annex II.

34. *Calls upon* States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations in armed conflicts and to ensure that those responsible are promptly brought to justice, in accordance with national law and their obligations under international law;

35. *Urges* all Member States to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute gender-based violence, and calls upon States, the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, harmonize response and strengthen capacity, with a view to reducing such violence and ensuring support services to victims of such violence;

36. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[280] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together, in collaboration with host communities, in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building efforts of States;

37. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel, as well as the delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

38. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations, and supports the approach taken by the Secretary-General to focus the security management system on enabling the United Nations system to deliver on its mandates, programmes and activities by effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed, including in the provision of humanitarian assistance;

39. *Encourages* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include, as part of their risk management strategy, the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and to promote acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors, in order to enable humanitarian assistance to be provided in accordance with humanitarian principles;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on actions taken to enable the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy staff quickly and flexibly, to procure emergency relief materials and services rapidly, cost-effectively and locally, where applicable, and to quickly disburse funds in order to support Governments and United Nations country teams in the coordination of international humanitarian assistance;

41. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2013, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and to submit a report to the Assembly on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund.

## RESOLUTION 67/103

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/67/611)

### 67/103. Credentials of representatives to the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Credentials Committee[281] and the recommendation contained therein,

*Approves* the report of the Credentials Committee.

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[280] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[281] A/67/611.

## RESOLUTION 67/104

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.44 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Fiji, Grenada, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Viet Nam

### 67/104. Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[282] in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/226 of 23 December 2011 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace and its other related resolutions,

*Recalling also* its resolution 64/14 of 10 November 2009, on the Alliance of Civilizations, in which it welcomed efforts to promote greater understanding and respect among people from different civilizations, cultures and religions,

*Bearing in mind* the valuable contribution that interreligious and intercultural dialogue can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Noting* that interreligious and intercultural dialogue has made significant contributions to mutual understanding, tolerance and respect, as well as to the promotion of a culture of peace and an improvement of overall relations among people from different cultural and religious backgrounds and among nations,

*Recognizing* that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are sources of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

*Bearing in mind* that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities contributes towards peace, mutual understanding and friendship among people of different cultures and nations and that these diversities should be made part of intercultural and interreligious dialogue efforts, as appropriate,

*Emphasizing* the importance of culture for development and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard noting the close links between cultural diversity, dialogue and development,

*Noting* the various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels for enhancing dialogue, understanding and cooperation among religions, cultures and civilizations, which are mutually reinforcing and interrelated,

*Welcoming* the inauguration of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, initiated by King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, established on the basis of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and acknowledging the important role that the Centre is expected to play as a platform for the enhancement of interreligious and intercultural dialogue,

*Acknowledging* the tenth anniversary of the 2001 Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity,[283] and welcoming the commemoration of the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures in 2010 and the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session of resolution 40, entitled "Proclamation of an international decade for the rapprochement of cultures (2013–2022)",[284]

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[282] Resolution 217 A (III).

[283] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[284] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-sixth Session, Paris, 25 October–10 November 2011*, vol. 1 and corrigenda: *Resolutions*, chap. V.

*Encouraging* activities aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue in order to enhance peace and social stability, respect for diversity and mutual respect in diverse communities and to create, at the global level, and also at the regional, national and local levels, an environment conducive to peace and mutual understanding,

*Recognizing* the contributions of the media and of new information and communications technology to changing peoples' perceptions of different cultures and religions, including through the promotion of dialogue,

*Reaffirming* the importance of sustaining the process of engaging all stakeholders, including young men and women as relevant actors, in interreligious and intercultural dialogue within the appropriate initiatives at various levels which aims to challenge preconceived ideas and improve mutual understanding,

*Recognizing* the commitment of all religions to peace and the need for voices of moderation from all religions and beliefs to work together in order to build a more secure and peaceful world,

1. *Reaffirms* that mutual understanding and interreligious and intercultural dialogue constitute important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on intercultural and interreligious dialogue;[285]

3. *Notes* the continuing work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on intercultural and interreligious dialogue and its efforts to promote dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, as well as activities related to a culture of peace, and welcomes in particular the adoption of its new programme of action for a culture of peace and non-violence and its focus on concrete actions at the global, regional and subregional levels;

4. *Takes note* of the positive outcomes of the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures in 2010, which contributed towards an environment conducive to harmonious coexistence and congenial interaction within and among diversified societies;

5. *Proclaims* the period 2013–2022 the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures, calls upon Member States to utilize this opportunity to enhance their activities relating to interreligious and intercultural dialogue, promoting tolerance and mutual understanding, and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in this context to be the lead agency in the United Nations system;

6. *Reaffirms* the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for and observance and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[282] and other instruments relating to human rights and international law, the universal nature of these rights and freedoms being beyond question;

7. *Welcomes* the outcome of the Seventh Asia-Europe Meeting Interfaith Dialogue, on harnessing the benefits and addressing the challenges of migration through interfaith and intercultural dialogue, held in the Philippines on 13 and 14 October 2011;

8. *Underlines* the importance of moderation as a value within societies for countering extremism in all its aspects and for further contributing to the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts by the media to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, encourages the further promotion of dialogue among the media from all cultures and civilizations, emphasizes that everyone has the right to freedom of expression, and reaffirms that the exercise of this right carries with it special duties and responsibilities and may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but that these shall be only such as are provided by law and necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals;

10. *Also welcomes* the efforts to use information and communications technology, including the Internet, to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, and in this regard acknowledges with appreciation the establishment by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries of the Interfaith Dialogue e-Portal pursuant to commitments made during the Special Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and

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[285] A/67/283.

Cooperation for Peace and Development, held in Manila from 16 to 18 March 2010, and encourages relevant stakeholders to utilize the opportunity to disseminate their best practices and experiences on interreligious and intercultural dialogue by contributing to the Interfaith Dialogue e-Portal;

11. *Encourages* Member States to consider, as and where appropriate, initiatives that identify areas for practical action in all sectors and levels of society for the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation, inter alia, the ideas suggested during the High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace, held in New York on 4 and 5 October 2007, including the idea of an enhanced process of dialogue among world religions;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of interreligious dialogue and its valuable contribution to promoting social cohesion, peace and development, and calls upon Member States to consider, as appropriate and where applicable, interreligious and intercultural dialogue as an important tool in efforts aimed at achieving peace and social stability and the full realization of the Millennium Development Goals;

13. *Also recognizes* the efforts by relevant stakeholders to foster peaceful and harmonious coexistence within societies by promoting respect for religious and cultural diversity, including by engendering sustained and robust interaction among various segments of society;

14. *Acknowledges* the active engagement of the United Nations system with faith-based organizations in the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and in bringing together people of different faiths to discuss common issues and objectives;

15. *Also acknowledges* the important role of civil society, including academia, in fostering interreligious and intercultural dialogue, and encourages support for practical measures that mobilize civil society, including building capacities, opportunities and frameworks for cooperation;

16. *Invites* Member States to further promote reconciliation to help to ensure durable peace and sustained development, including through reconciliatory measures and acts of service and by encouraging forgiveness and compassion among individuals;

17. *Recognizes* that the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat plays a valuable role as focal point within the Secretariat on the issue, and encourages it to continue to interact and coordinate with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and coordinate their contribution to the intergovernmental process aimed at promoting intercultural and interreligious dialogue;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/105

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.45 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Angola, Australia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Montenegro, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

### 67/105. International Day of Charity

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[286] which states that recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

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[286] Resolution 217 A (III).

*Recalling* the goals and objectives of the Declaration[287] and Programme of Action[288] on a Culture of Peace,

*Reaffirming* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

*Reaffirming also* the recognition, set forth in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[289] adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit, of the fundamental value of solidarity to international relations in the twenty-first century,

*Deeply concerned* that poverty persists in all countries of the world, particularly in developing countries, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation,

*Recognizing* the work done by Member States and the United Nations system and the role of charity in alleviating humanitarian crises and human suffering within and among nations,

*Affirming* that charity may contribute to the promotion of dialogue among people from different civilizations, cultures and religions, as well as of solidarity and mutual understanding,

*Recognizing* the efforts of charitable organizations and individuals, including the work of Mother Teresa,

1. *Decides* to designate 5 September as the International Day of Charity;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to commemorate the International Day of Charity in an appropriate manner, by encouraging charity, including through education and public awareness-raising activities;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system.

## RESOLUTION 67/106

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.46 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 67/106. Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

*Recalling* the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

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[287] Resolution 53/243 A.

[288] Resolution 53/243 B.

[289] Rresolution 55/2.

*Recognizing* the importance of the Declaration[290] and Programme of Action[291] on a Culture of Peace, which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and resolutions 56/5 of 5 November 2001, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, 58/11 of 10 November 2003, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, 60/3 of 20 October 2005, 61/45 of 4 December 2006, 62/89 of 17 December 2007, 63/113 of 5 December 2008, 64/80 of 7 December 2009, 65/11 of 23 November 2010 and 66/116 of 12 December 2011, adopted under its agenda item entitled "Culture of Peace",

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[292] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

*Taking note* of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly,[293]

*Welcoming* the observance of 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence, as proclaimed by the United Nations,[294]

*Recognizing* that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, the prevention of conflicts, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to the culture of peace,

*Recognizing also* the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, of choosing negotiations over confrontation and of working together and not against each other,

*Welcoming* the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, submitted pursuant to resolution 66/116 and transmitted by the Secretary-General,[295]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on intercultural and interreligious dialogue,[296]

*Recalling* the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 21 February as the International Mother Language Day, which aims at protecting, promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural diversity, and multilingualism, in order to foster and enrich a culture of peace, social harmony, cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in promoting a culture of peace through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and corporate leaders,

*Welcoming* the successful holding on 14 September 2012 of the first-ever General Assembly High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace, convened by the President of the Assembly, and the wide-ranging partnership and inclusive collaboration among Member States, international organizations and civil society, as evidenced at the Forum,

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[290] Resolution 53/243 A.

[291] Resolution 53/243 B.

[292] Resolution 55/2.

[293] Resolution 60/1.

[294] Resolution 61/271.

[295] See A/67/284.

[296] A/67/283.

*Welcoming also* the high-level debate organized at United Nations Headquarters by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to mark the observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September 2012,

*Welcoming further* the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session of a programme of action for a culture of peace and non-violence, and noting that the objectives of that programme of action are in line with the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by the General Assembly,

*Encouraging* the continued and increasing efforts and activities on the part of civil society organizations throughout the world in advancing the culture of peace as envisaged in the Declaration and Programme of Action,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace[291] is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, and calls upon all concerned to renew their attention to this objective;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

3. *Invites* the entities of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to integrate, as appropriate, the eight action areas of the Programme of Action into their programmes of activities, focusing on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence at the regional, national and international levels;

4. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for which the promotion of a culture of peace is the expression of its fundamental mandate, for further strengthening the activities it has undertaken to promote a culture of peace;

5. *Commends* the practical initiatives and actions by relevant United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the University for Peace, as well as their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

6. *Encourages* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to promote peacebuilding activities and advance a culture of peace and non-violence in post-conflict peacebuilding efforts at the country level;

7. *Urges* the appropriate authorities to provide age-appropriate education, in children's schools, that includes lessons in mutual understanding, tolerance, active citizenship, human rights and the promotion of a culture of peace;

8. *Encourages* the involvement of media, especially the mass media, in promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people;

9. *Commends* civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes;

10. *Encourages* civil society and non-governmental organizations to further strengthen their efforts to promote a culture of peace, inter alia, by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, in line with the Declaration on a Culture of Peace[290] and Programme of Action;

11. *Welcomes* the decision of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 10 November 2011 to proclaim 30 April International Jazz Day,[297] and calls upon Member

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[297] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-sixth Session, Paris, 25 October–10 November 2011*, vol. 1 and corrigenda: *Resolutions*, chap. V.

States to participate actively in the celebration of International Jazz Day in order to develop and increase intercultural exchanges and understanding between cultures for the purpose of mutual comprehension and tolerance;

12. *Stresses* the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in mobilizing all relevant stakeholders within and outside the United Nations system in support of cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace, and invites the Organization to continue to enhance communication and outreach, including through the culture of peace website;

13. *Invites* Member States, all parts of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, including the International Day of Peace Non-Governmental Organization Committee at the United Nations, to accord increasing attention to their observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September each year as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to consider convening a high-level forum, as appropriate and within existing resources, devoted to the implementation of the Programme of Action on the occasion of the anniversary of its adoption, on or around 13 September;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, in consultation with the Member States and taking into account the observations of civil society organizations, to explore mechanisms and strategies, in particular strategies in the sphere of information and communications technology, for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and to initiate outreach efforts to increase global awareness of the Programme of Action and its eight areas of action aimed at their implementation;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on actions undertaken to implement the present resolution and on heightened activities by the United Nations and its affiliated agencies to implement the Programme of Action and to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

## RESOLUTION 67/107

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.47 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Jordan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Uganda

### 67/107. People's empowerment and development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/224 of 22 December 2011 on people's empowerment and development,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Expressing concern* about the crippling effects of poverty, inequality and disparity all over the globe, and recognizing that people should be the key focus of plans, programmes and policies at all levels,

*Recognizing* that the empowerment of people is essential to achieving development,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, in articulating the linkages between people's empowerment and development,

1. *Notes* the proposal of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh on integrating the interlinked and mutually reinforcing elements of people's empowerment and development, expressed as eradicating poverty and hunger, reducing inequality, mitigating deprivation, creating jobs for all, including excluded people, accelerating human development and fighting terrorism in all its forms and manifestations in accordance with international law;

2. *Expresses appreciation* to the Government of Bangladesh for organizing the International Conference on People's Empowerment and Development, held in Dhaka on 5 and 6 August 2012, and takes note of the views expressed by participating Member States at the Conference, as reflected in the Chair's summary;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of the high-level panel on the theme "Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all", which will hold its discussions during the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, in 2013;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include information relevant to the present resolution in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on progress in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals until 2015.

## RESOLUTION 67/108

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.41 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### 67/108. Permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 61/19 of 28 November 2006, entitled "Commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade", and subsequent resolutions entitled "Permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade",

*Recalling also* the designation of 25 March as the annual International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade,

*Recognizing* how little is known about the transatlantic slave trade and its lasting consequences, felt throughout the world, and welcoming the increased attention that the annual commemoration by the General Assembly has brought to the issue, including raising awareness in many States,

*Noting* the initiatives undertaken by States in reaffirming their commitment to implement paragraphs 101 and 102 of the Durban Declaration of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, aimed at countering the legacy of slavery and contributing to the restoration of the dignity of the victims of slavery and the slave trade,[298]

*Recalling*, in particular, paragraph 101 of the Durban Declaration, which, inter alia, invited the international community and its members to honour the memory of the victims,

*Stressing* the importance of educating and informing current and future generations about the causes, consequences and lessons of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade,

*Recalling* that the permanent memorial initiative complements the work being done at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the Slave Route Project, including its commemorative activities,

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[298] A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

1. *Endorses* the initiative of Member States to erect, at a place of prominence at United Nations Headquarters that is easily accessible to delegates, United Nations staff and visitors, a permanent memorial in acknowledgement of the tragedy and in consideration of the legacy of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade;

2. *Recalls* the establishment of a committee of interested States to oversee the permanent memorial project, drawn from all geographical regions of the world, with Member States from the Caribbean Community and the African Union playing a primary role, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, representatives of the Secretariat, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of the New York Public Library and civil society;

3. *Also recalls* the establishment of a trust fund for the permanent memorial, referred to as the United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships — Permanent Memorial, administered by the United Nations Office for Partnerships, and notes the current status of contributions to the Trust Fund;[299]

4. *Expresses sincere appreciation* to those Member States that have made contributions to the Trust Fund;

5. *Recognizes* the necessity of sustained voluntary contributions in order to achieve in a timely manner the goal of erecting a permanent memorial in honour of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, and in this regard, encourages Member States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to organize a series of activities annually to commemorate the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, including a commemorative meeting of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters and, as appropriate, activities through the network of United Nations information centres;

7. *Requests* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate steps to enhance world public awareness of the commemorative activities and the permanent memorial initiative, and to facilitate efforts to erect the permanent memorial at United Nations Headquarters;

8. *Reiterates its request*, in resolution 64/15 of 16 November 2009, for Member States to develop, in accordance with their national legislation, educational programmes, including through school curricula, designed to educate and inculcate in future generations an understanding of the lessons, history and consequences of slavery and the slave trade, and to provide such information to the Secretary-General for inclusion in his report;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the commitment of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the permanent memorial initiative, and in this regard requests increased collaboration with the Permanent Memorial Committee towards the successful conclusion of the international design competition for the permanent memorial;

10. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme of educational outreach on the transatlantic slave trade and slavery[300] relating to the diverse educational outreach strategy to increase awareness of and to educate future generations about the causes, consequences, lessons and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade and to communicate the dangers of racism and prejudice, and encourages continued action in this regard;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on continued action to implement the programme of educational outreach, including actions taken by Member States in implementing the present resolution, as well as steps to enhance world public awareness of the commemorative activities and the permanent memorial initiative;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office for Partnerships, through the Secretary-General, to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the status of the Trust Fund and, in particular, on contributions received and their utilization;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade".

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[299] A/67/161.

[300] A/67/255.

## RESOLUTION 67/109

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.27, sponsored by: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

### 67/109. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM

*The General Assembly,*

*Referring* to its resolution 58/85 of 9 December 2003, by which it granted the GUUAM observer status in the General Assembly, and taking note that the GUUAM was transformed into the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM by the Heads of State of members of the Organization in their Kyiv Declaration of 23 May 2006,[301]

*Recalling* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of a political, economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature,

*Referring* to Security Council resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, in which the Council recalled its invitation to regional organizations to improve coordination with the United Nations and the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1994,[302]

*Acknowledging* the intention of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM to further develop partnership relations with the United Nations and its Member States, based on the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect and mutually beneficial cooperation, as well as on the commitment to democratic values, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Convinced* that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM will further contribute to promoting the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the activity of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM aimed at promoting regional cooperation in various areas such as trade and economic development, energy, transportation, culture, science, education, public health, youth, tourism and sport, as well as countering terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, human trafficking, illegal migration and other types of criminal activity of a transnational nature, which contributes to the attainment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM, and to that end invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to engage in regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM, utilizing for that purpose the appropriate inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies, components, organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system to cooperate and develop direct contacts with the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM for the joint implementation of projects aimed at the attainment of common objectives, and in that context takes note of the existing practice of cooperation between the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", a sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM".

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[301] A/60/875-S/2006/364, annex I.

[302] Resolution 49/57, annex.

## RESOLUTION 67/110

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.40 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Viet Nam

### 67/110. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the aims and purposes of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, as enshrined in the Bangkok Declaration of 8 August 1967,[303] in particular the maintenance of close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes,

*Recalling* all previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,[304]

*Noting with appreciation* the report of the Secretary-General,[305]

*Noting with satisfaction* that the activities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Welcoming* efforts to strengthen partnership between the United Nations and regional organizations, and in this context welcoming also efforts to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations system and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,

*Welcoming also* the participation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the high-level meetings between the United Nations and regional organizations, as well as the collaboration between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to promote dialogue and cooperation among regional organizations in Asia and the Pacific,

*Welcoming further* the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as an observer in the General Assembly,

*Recalling* the First, Second, Third and Fourth Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Summits, held in Bangkok on 12 February 2000, at United Nations Headquarters on 13 September 2005, in Hanoi on 29 October 2010, and in Bali, Indonesia, on 19 November 2011, respectively, and the commitment of leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to further broaden cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 15 December 2008 of the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,[306] which represents a historic milestone for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, reflecting a common vision and commitment to the development of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations community so as to ensure a lasting peace, stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress in the region;

2. *Also welcomes* the adoption of the Bali Declaration on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) at the nineteenth Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit on 17 November 2011 in Bali, which will serve as the common platform of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on global issues in addressing global challenges and seizing the opportunities of the twenty-first century;

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[303] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1331, No. 22341.

[304] Resolutions 57/35, 59/5, 61/46, 63/35 and 65/235.

[305] A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. II.

[306] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2624, No. 46745.

3. *Recognizes* the commitment of the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to establish a partnership between the two organizations, as laid out in the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 27 September 2007, and in this connection welcomes the adoption of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations at the Fourth Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Summit on 19 November 2011 in Bali, with the purpose of further advancing and intensifying the level of cooperation, as well as strengthening the framework of cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations to support the Association of Southeast Asian Nations undertakings in all three of its community-building pillars through appropriate and concrete steps, as outlined in the Cha-Am Hua Hin Declaration on the Road Map for an Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community (2009–2015);

5. *Commends* the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations for their efforts to hold regular meetings, on an annual basis, with the presence of the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, during the regular session of the Assembly, with a view to further strengthening the cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

6. *Continues to encourage* the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to convene Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Summits regularly, and underlines the importance of the presence thereat of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and heads of relevant United Nations departments, funds and programmes, and specialized agencies, and in this context welcomes the holding of the Fourth Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Summit and looks forward to convening the Fifth Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Summit;

7. *Recognizes* the value of comprehensive partnership between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in providing timely and effective responses to global issues of mutual concern, in the context of partnership between the United Nations and regional organizations, and thus encourages the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to explore concrete measures dedicated to expanding and deepening cooperation, particularly in the areas of peace and security, including the exchange of experiences and best practices on conflict resolution and post-conflict demining activities, economic and social development towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, food and energy security, sustainable development, disaster management and climate change, the promotion of human rights and democracy, Association of Southeast Asian Nations connectivity and integration, the preservation and development of the cultural diversity of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the Global Movement of Moderates, as reflected in the statement of the co-chairs of the Fourth Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Summit and the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations;

8. *Welcomes* the Association of Southeast Asian Nations initiative on the Global Movement of Moderates, which was endorsed by leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations at its eighteenth Summit, held in Jakarta in May 2011, as one of the positive contributions of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in shaping global development and advancing global peace by promoting the initiative in the relevant agenda of the United Nations, and in this context welcomes the Association of Southeast Asian Nations concept paper on the Global Movement of Moderates, which was adopted by leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations at its twentieth Summit, held in Phnom Penh in April 2012;

9. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations leaders of the Declaration for a Drug-Free Association of Southeast Asian Nations 2015, at the twentieth Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit, as a reflection of the continued commitment to the realization of a drug-free Association of Southeast Asian Nations by 2015, with its member States and the United Nations therefore reaffirming their commitment to working closely together to eradicate illicit drugs completely and to achieve an Association of Southeast Asian Nations drug-free zone;

10. *Further welcomes* the entry into force in 2011 of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Convention on Counter-Terrorism as a milestone in enhancing the capacity of the region to confront terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and to promote regional efforts in strengthening counter-terrorism cooperation;

11. *Acknowledges* the contribution of maritime security cooperation to Association of Southeast Asian Nations community-building, and stresses the need to further strengthen such contributions, including through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Maritime Forum, in order to address related issues and challenges;

12. *Encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the field of human rights, particularly through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, as well as the rights of migrant workers in accordance with national laws, regulations and policies of member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the principles contained in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers;

13. *Also encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to ensure an effective response to and management of natural and anthropogenic disasters, including disaster risk reduction, through the operationalization of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management and implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response work programme for 2010–2015;

14. *Further encourages* the collaboration between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in research on peace, conflict management and conflict resolution, through exchanges of best practices and capacity-building of existing mechanisms or other institutions to be set up, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Institute for Peace and Reconciliation;

15. *Encourages* effective cooperation between member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the appropriate United Nations organizations in the successful implementation of operational activities, in particular efforts to close economic development gaps by supporting the implementation of the Initiative for Association of Southeast Asian Nations Integration workplan II and the master plan on Association of Southeast Asian Nations connectivity;

16. *Reiterates* the commitment to further enhance close coordination and cooperation between the member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations on peacekeeping operations, and encourages the active role played by various member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

17. *Also reiterates* the importance of maintaining peace, security and stability in the South-East Asia region and the world at large and that, in this context, the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)[307] and its related documents would mark another important milestone in the achievements of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations with respect to ensuring that the South-East Asia region is free from nuclear weapons, and in this connection encourages continued consultations between the States parties to the Bangkok Treaty and the nuclear-weapon States in order to facilitate the signing of the Protocol and its related documents as early as possible;

18. *Further reiterates* the importance of enhancing regional security and cooperation to promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including the peaceful settlement of disputes, and international law;

19. *Takes note* of the efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to hold meetings with other regional organizations at the sidelines of the sessions of the General Assembly to promote cooperation in support of multilateralism;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations".

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[307] Ibid., vol. 1981, No. 33873.

## RESOLUTION 67/135

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.42 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### 67/135. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

*The General Assembly*,

*Recognizing* that the trade in conflict diamonds continues to be a matter of serious international concern, which can be directly linked to the fuelling of armed conflict, the activities of rebel movements aimed at undermining or overthrowing legitimate Governments and the illicit traffic in and proliferation of armaments, especially small arms and light weapons,

*Recognizing also* the devastating impact of conflicts fuelled by the trade in conflict diamonds on the peace, safety and security of people in affected countries, and the systematic and gross human rights violations that have been perpetrated in such conflicts,

*Noting* the negative impact of such conflicts on regional stability and the obligations placed upon States by the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Recognizing* that continued action to curb the trade in conflict diamonds is imperative,

*Noting with appreciation* that the Kimberley Process, as an international initiative led by the Governments of participant States, has pursued its deliberations on an inclusive basis involving concerned stakeholders, including producing, exporting and importing States, the diamond industry and civil society, as well as applicant States and international organizations,

*Recalling* that the elimination of conflict diamonds from legitimate trade is the primary objective of the Kimberley Process, and stressing the need to continue its activities in order to achieve this objective,

*Calling for* the consistent implementation of commitments made by Kimberley Process participant States,

*Acknowledging* that the diamond sector is an important catalyst for promoting economic and social development, which are necessary for poverty reduction and meeting the requirements of the Millennium Development Goals in many producing countries, particularly in developing countries,

*Bearing in mind* the positive benefits of the legitimate diamond trade to producing countries, and underlining the need for continued international action to prevent the problem of conflict diamonds from negatively affecting the trade in legitimate diamonds, which makes a critical contribution to the economies of the producing, exporting and importing States,

*Noting* that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,

*Recalling* the Charter and all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council related to conflict diamonds, and determined to contribute to and support the implementation of the measures provided for in those resolutions,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolution 1459 (2003) of 28 January 2003, in which the Council strongly supported the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[308] as a valuable contribution against trafficking in conflict diamonds,

*Welcoming* the important contribution of the Kimberley Process, which was initiated by African diamond-producing countries,

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[308] See A/57/489.

*Noting with satisfaction* that the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme continues to have a positive impact in reducing the opportunity for conflict diamonds to play a role in fuelling armed conflict and would help to protect legitimate trade and ensure the effective implementation of the relevant resolutions on trade in conflict diamonds,

*Acknowledging* that lessons learned from the Kimberley Process may be useful for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in its consideration of the countries included in its agenda, as appropriate,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/56 of 1 December 2000, 56/263 of 13 March 2002, 57/302 of 15 April 2003, 58/290 of 14 April 2004, 59/144 of 15 December 2004, 60/182 of 20 December 2005, 61/28 of 4 December 2006, 62/11 of 26 November 2007, 63/134 of 11 December 2008, 64/109 of 11 December 2009, 65/137 of 16 December 2010 and 66/252 of 25 January 2012, in which it called for the development and implementation as well as a periodic review of proposals for a simple, effective and pragmatic international certification scheme for rough diamonds,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme in such a way as not to impede the legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, nor hinder the development of the diamond industry,

*Welcoming also* the decision of the 54 Kimberley Process Participants, representing 80 countries, including the 27 members of the European Union represented by the European Commission, to address the problem of conflict diamonds by participating in the Process and implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

*Noting* the outcomes of the tenth plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, hosted by the United States of America from 27 to 30 November 2012,[309]

*Welcoming* the important contribution to fulfilling the purposes of the Kimberley Process that has been made and continues to be made by civil society organizations from across participant countries, and the diamond industry, in particular the World Diamond Council, which represents all aspects of the diamond industry in the Kimberley Process, to assist international efforts to stop the trade in conflict diamonds, as noted in the Kimberley Process communiqué of 30 November 2012,[309]

*Welcoming also* the voluntary self-regulation initiatives for the diamond industry announced by the World Diamond Council, and recognizing that a system of such voluntary self-regulation contributes, as described in the Interlaken Declaration of 5 November 2002 on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds,[308] to ensuring the effectiveness of national systems of internal control for rough diamonds,

*Recognizing* that State sovereignty should be fully respected and that the principles of equality, mutual benefits and consensus should be adhered to,

*Recognizing also* that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, which came into effect on 1 January 2003, will be credible only if all Participants have requisite national legislation coupled with effective and credible internal systems of control designed to eliminate the presence of conflict diamonds in the chain of producing, exporting and importing rough diamonds within their own territories, while taking into account that differences in production methods and trading practices, as well as differences in institutional controls thereof, may require different approaches to meeting minimum standards,

*Welcoming* the efforts to improve the normative framework of the Kimberley Process through the elaboration of new rules and procedural norms to regulate the activities of its working bodies, Participants and observers and the streamlining of the procedures for preparation and adoption of the decisions and documents of the Kimberley Process, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

1. *Reaffirms its strong and continuing support* for the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[308] and the Kimberley Process as a whole;

2. *Recognizes* that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme can help to ensure the effective implementation of relevant resolutions of the Security Council containing sanctions on the trade in conflict diamonds

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[309] See A/67/640.

and act as a mechanism for the prevention of future conflicts, and calls for the full implementation of existing Council measures targeting the illicit trade in rough diamonds, particularly conflict diamonds which play a role in fuelling conflict;

3. *Welcomes* the admission in August 2012 of Cameroon and in November 2012 of Cambodia, Kazakhstan and Panama as full Participants in the Kimberley Process;

4. *Recognizes* the important contributions that the international efforts to address the problem of conflict diamonds, including the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, have made to the settlement of conflicts and the consolidation of peace in Angola, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

5. *Notes* the efforts to further strengthen implementation of the Kimberley Process, including efforts to examine the application of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme requirements in cross-border Internet sales;

6. *Also notes* the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 15 May 2003 granting a waiver with respect to the measures taken to implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, effective from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2006, the decision of the General Council of 17 November 2006 granting an extension of the waiver until 31 December 2012, and the decision of the General Council of 11 December 2012 granting an extension of the waiver until 31 December 2018;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Chair of the Kimberley Process submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/252,[309] and congratulates the participating Governments, the regional economic integration organization,[310] the diamond industry and civil society organizations, and the new observers, namely the Diamond Development Initiative and the African Diamond Producers Association, involved in the Process for contributing to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

8. *Acknowledges* the progress made by Kimberley Process working groups, Participants and observers during 2012 in fulfilling the objectives set by the Chair to strengthen implementation of the peer review system, increase the transparency and accuracy of statistics, promote research into the traceability of diamonds, promote inclusiveness by broadening the level of involvement by Governments, industry and civil society in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, foster a sense of ownership by Participants, improve information and communication flows and enhance the capacity of the Certification Scheme to respond to emerging challenges;

9. *Notes* that the annual reporting process on Kimberley Process Certification Scheme implementation is the main comprehensive and regular source of information on the implementation of the Process provided by Participants, and calls upon Participants to submit consistent and substantive annual reports in order to conform to this requirement;

10. *Expresses appreciation* to Canada, Lebanon, Switzerland, Thailand and the United States of America for receiving review visits in 2012, welcomes the commitment of those countries to continuously open their certification systems to reviews and improvements, and calls upon other Participants that have not already done so to make themselves available to receive review visits;

11. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Kimberley Process to strengthen implementation and enforcement, and in particular to ensure coordination of Kimberley Process actions in relation to the occurrence of fraudulent certificates, to apply vigilance and ensure the detection and reporting of shipments of suspicious origin and to facilitate the exchange of information in cases of infringement, and acknowledges with appreciation the increased level of collaboration among Participants and with the World Customs Organization in this matter;

12. *Stresses* that the widest possible participation in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is essential, encourages all Member States to contribute to the work of the Kimberley Process by seeking membership, participating actively in the Certification Scheme and complying with its undertakings, and acknowledges the importance of the increased involvement of civil society organizations in the Process;

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[310] European Union.

13. *Calls upon* the Participants of the Kimberley Process to continue to articulate and improve rules and procedures to further enhance the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and notes with satisfaction the systematization of the work of the Process with respect to developing transparent and uniform rules and procedures and improving the mechanism for consultations and coordination within the Process, including through the adoption of rules related to non-compliance and statistical anomalies;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the willingness of Kimberley Process Participants and observers to support and provide technical assistance to those Participants experiencing temporary difficulties in complying with the requirements of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

15. *Recognizes* the importance of the Kimberley Process in promoting economic development, particularly in the artisanal and small-scale diamond mining sector, and encourages an increased focus on issues related to development, including through the work of the Diamond Development Initiative;

16. *Welcomes* the increased focus in 2012 on technical assistance through the creation of a development and assistance section on the Kimberley Process website, the monthly issuance of technical assistance bulletins and the organization on 7 and 8 June 2012 of a conference on enhancing the development potential of artisanal and small-scale mining;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the continued cooperation of the Kimberley Process with the United Nations on the issue of diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire, in accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 2045 (2012) of 26 April 2012 and in line with the administrative decision on sharing information with the United Nations,[311] also notes with appreciation the visit by a team of experts from the Kimberley Process Working Group of Diamond Experts to diamond mining areas in Côte d'Ivoire, in accordance with the mandate from the Security Council sanctions committee, and encourages the Kimberley Process Working Group on Monitoring and the Working Group of Diamond Experts, with the support of the Friends of Côte d'Ivoire, to continue to actively collaborate with the United Nations Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire, established pursuant to Council resolution 1584 (2005) of 1 February 2005, and through liaison with Côte d'Ivoire, with the ultimate objective of meeting the preconditions for the lifting of United Nations sanctions on the trade in rough diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire;

18. *Notes* the visits made to Côte d'Ivoire in May, August and September 2012 by the Friends of Côte d'Ivoire and, in acknowledging the importance of technical assistance to the Interministerial Kimberley Process Permanent Secretariat, calls upon the Friends of Côte d'Ivoire to provide further assistance and upon the Kimberley Process to support the efforts of Côte d'Ivoire to prepare for implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

19. *Encourages* the Kimberley Process, in collaboration with the Panel of Experts on Liberia, established pursuant to Security Council resolution 2025 (2011) of 14 December 2011, to support the efforts of Liberia to continue reinforcing its internal controls system and to continue to address the challenges to the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and notes the intention of Liberia to host a review visit in early 2013;

20. *Recognizes* the commitment of Guinea to fulfilling the terms of the Swakopmund administrative decision on Guinea (2009) and the support provided to Guinea by Kimberley Process Participants and observers, notes with satisfaction the efforts by Guinea, the United States Geological Survey and civil society to develop a framework for collaborative, multi-stakeholder monitoring of remote artisanal mining areas, and welcomes the decision by the Kimberley Process tenth plenary meeting to conclude the administrative decision;[309]

21. *Acknowledges* the progress made by Zimbabwe to resolve concerns about its compliance with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme in Marange, Zimbabwe, notes the decision of the plenary meeting to lift the Kimberley Process special measures under the terms of the administrative decision adopted at the plenary meeting held in Kinshasa in 2011, and recognizes Zimbabwe's commitment to the Process;

22. *Notes* the decision of the plenary meeting regarding the continued participation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the Kimberley Process, acknowledges the positive step represented by the submissions presented by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in response to the decision of the plenary meeting, and invites the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to continue its efforts to fully reintegrate into the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme through the steps outlined in the Kimberley Process communiqué;[309]

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[311] A/64/559, annex, attachment I.

23. *Notes with appreciation* the approval, by the plenary meeting, of the administrative decision on the selection, engagement and operation of a Kimberley Process administrative support mechanism, with the World Diamond Council acting as host for 2013;[309]

24. *Notes* the discussions during 2012 on the subject of the Kimberley Process reforms and the proposed changes to the definition of "conflict diamonds", among other proposals, also notes that consensus was not reached on whether or not to change the definition of "conflict diamonds", and further notes that the plenary meeting reaffirmed the mandate of the Committee on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme Review to continue discussions and consultations on the subject;

25. *Acknowledges* the adoption by the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, in addition to the decision referred to in paragraph 23 above, of four other documents, namely the administrative decision on the data anomalies questionnaire process, the Washington Declaration of 2012 as a complement to the Moscow Declaration of 2005, a revised administrative decision on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme peer review system, and the revised guidelines for the Participation Committee in recommending interim measures as regards serious non-compliance with Certification Scheme minimum requirements;

26. *Notes with appreciation* that the Kimberley Process website, developed by the United States of America with support from the Antwerp World Diamond Centre, has been enhanced significantly to make it a more efficient and effective system;

27. *Notes* ongoing work within the Kimberley Process on the guidelines on bilateral reconciliation and the methodology analysis review document;

28. *Reaffirms* the importance of the tripartite nature of the Kimberley Process, and welcomes the commitment of the plenary meeting to continue its constructive engagement with civil society in recognition of the role that civil society plays in the Kimberley Process;

29. *Encourages* further improvement in enforcement of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and notes the new efforts made to increase information-sharing and collaboration in enforcement;

30. *Acknowledges with great appreciation* the important contribution that the United States of America, as Chair of the Kimberley Process in 2012, has made to curbing the trade in conflict diamonds, welcomes the selection of South Africa as the incoming Chair of the Process for 2013, and notes with appreciation the offer by China to serve as the incoming Vice-Chair for 2013;

31. *Requests* the Chair of the Kimberley Process to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the Process;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict".

## RESOLUTION 67/136

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.43 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cape Verde (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam

### 67/136. Inclusion of South Sudan in the list of least developed countries

*The General Assembly*,

*Noting* that South Sudan became a member of the United Nations on 14 July 2011,

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/32 of 27 July 2012,

*Noting* that South Sudan has given its consent to be included in the list of least developed countries,

*Endorses* the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council that South Sudan be added to the list of least developed countries.

## RESOLUTION 67/137

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.30/Rev.2 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uruguay, Viet Nam

### 67/137. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 33/18 of 10 November 1978, 50/3 of 16 October 1995, 52/2 of 17 October 1997, 54/25 of 15 November 1999, 56/45 of 7 December 2001, 57/43 of 21 November 2002, 59/22 of 8 November 2004, 61/7 of 20 October 2006, 63/236 of 22 December 2008 and 65/263 of 14 January 2011, as well as its decision 53/453 of 18 December 1998,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 61/266 of 16 May 2007, 63/306 of 9 September 2009 and 65/311 of 19 July 2011 on multilingualism,

*Considering* that the International Organization of la Francophonie, which is made up of 74 States Members of the United Nations, representing more than one third of the members of the General Assembly, is promoting multilateral cooperation in areas of common interest,

*Bearing in mind* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through regional cooperation,

*Bearing in mind also* that, according to the Charter of la Francophonie adopted on 23 November 2005 at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie, held in Antananarivo, the objectives of the International Organization of la Francophonie are to assist in the establishment and development of democracy, the prevention, management and settlement of conflicts, support for the rule of law and for human rights, the intensification of dialogue between cultures and civilizations, the establishment of closer ties among peoples through mutual knowledge, the strengthening of their solidarity through multilateral cooperation activities with a view to promoting the growth of their economies, and the promotion of education and training,

*Welcoming* the steps taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie to strengthen its ties with the organizations of the United Nations system and with international and regional organizations with a view to attaining its objectives,

*Affirming* the importance of a balanced and effective multilateral system that is representative of today's world, one that is based upon a strong and renewed United Nations,

*Noting with satisfaction* the commitment of the International Organization of la Francophonie to multilingualism and to multilateral cooperation for peace, democratic governance and the rule of law, economic governance and solidarity, poverty eradication, protection of the environment, sustainable development and combating climate change,

*Noting with satisfaction also* the commitments made in "The future we want", the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,[312] particularly those aimed at accelerating achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, and reaffirmed by the Heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language at the fourteenth Summit of la Francophonie, held in Kinshasa from 12 to 14 October 2012, together with an undertaking to play an active role in formulating and implementing the sustainable development goals and a determination to implement national sustainable development strategies to make an effective contribution to eradicating poverty and protecting the environment,

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[312] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 65/263,[313]

*Noting with satisfaction* the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programmes and the International Organization of la Francophonie,

*Convinced* that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie serves the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Noting* the will of the two organizations to consolidate, develop and strengthen the ties that exist between them in the political, economic, social and cultural fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[313] and welcomes the strengthened and fruitful cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with the declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language at the fourteenth Summit of la Francophonie, the International Organization of la Francophonie participates actively in the work of the United Nations, whose purposes, as set forth in its Charter, include to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and respect for the principle of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of those common ends;

3. *Also notes with satisfaction* the continued strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of human rights and the promotion of gender equality, and commends the initiatives taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie in the areas of crisis and conflict prevention, the promotion of peace, support for democracy and the rule of law, in accordance with the commitments set forth in its Bamako Declaration, of 3 November 2000 on the practices of democracy, rights and freedoms in the francophone world,[314] and reaffirmed at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie on Conflict Prevention and Human Security, held on 13 and 14 May 2006 in Saint Boniface, Canada;

4. *Welcomes* the involvement of the International Organization of la Francophonie in high-level consultations on the Sahel and its genuine contribution, in cooperation with the United Nations, to crisis resolution and recovery and to peacebuilding in Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Madagascar and Tunisia, and the Sahel, including Mali and Niger;

5. *Also welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the International Organization of la Francophonie, including to provide support for French-speaking countries in the context of the universal periodic review;

6. *Further welcomes* the development of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, with the participation of other regional and subregional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, in the fields of early warning and crisis and conflict prevention, and encourages the pursuit of this initiative with a view to formulating practical recommendations to facilitate the establishment of relevant operational mechanisms, where necessary;

7. *Welcomes* the impetus given to the participation of States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie in peacekeeping operations, while recalling that it is up to the United Nations to preserve the multilingualism of these operations, and draws attention to the strengthened cooperation between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat with a view to increasing the number of French-speaking personnel involved in United Nations peacekeeping operations;

8. *Encourages* the continuation of efforts by the States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie and by the Organization itself, taking into account the authority of the Secretary-General of the

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[313] A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. II.

[314] A/55/731, annex.

United Nations, to increase the supply of French-speaking civilian and military contingents on missions to francophone countries and to build their capacities, including access by French-speaking personnel to leadership positions in peacekeeping operations in French-speaking countries;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the International Organization of la Francophonie in the Peacebuilding Commission's work on Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau, and strongly encourages the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to cooperate actively;

10. *Also welcomes* the involvement of the International Organization of la Francophonie in promoting international criminal justice, as well as the signing of a partnership agreement between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the International Criminal Court, which illustrates the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in protecting human rights, restoring the rule of law and combating impunity;

11. *Further welcomes* the efforts of the International Organization of la Francophonie to establish democratic governance of security systems and to define a francophone position with regard to justice, truth and reconciliation in order to support French-speaking States in crisis and in transition;

12. *Notes with satisfaction* the development of collaboration between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in electoral monitoring and assistance, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation between the two organizations in that area;

13. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for including the International Organization of la Francophonie in the periodic meetings he holds with heads of regional organizations, and invites him to continue to do so, taking into account the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in conflict prevention and support for democracy and the rule of law;

14. *Notes* the firm commitment by the States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie, at its fourteenth summit, to pursue efforts:

(*a*) To take a shared approach to environmental and economic challenges in the spirit of the Millennium Development Goals; and help to formulate and implement sustainable development goals, in accordance with the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;[312]

(*b*) To promote democratic governance and human rights;

(*c*) To ensure respect for cultural diversity and multilingualism, including through education;

(*d*) To improve global governance to promote a balanced multilateral system which assures permanent and equitable representation of Africa in decision-making bodies;

15. *Invites* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to collaborate to this end with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie by identifying new synergies in favour of development, in particular in the areas of poverty eradication, energy, sustainable development, education, training and the development of new information technologies, in particular with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, to the benefit of all, including young people and women;

16. *Welcomes* the signing, on 21 May 2012, of a framework cooperation agreement between the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the International Organization of la Francophonie, aimed at mutual strengthening of initiatives and projects in support of women in French-speaking countries, including to target violence against women;

17. *Encourages* the International Organization of la Francophonie to work alongside UN-Women in areas including women's participation in political decision-making and in economic, social and cultural life, advocacy of equality of women and men and integration of gender equality into sustainable development;

18. *Welcomes* the signing, on 31 May 2012, of a memorandum of understanding between the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Organization of la Francophonie on strengthening existing cooperation between the two organizations;

19. *Expresses its gratitude* to the International Organization of la Francophonie for the steps it has taken in recent years to promote cultural and linguistic diversity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations, and encourages the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie to cooperate more closely to ensure full respect of provisions on multilingualism;

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of la Francophonie for their sustained efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the two organizations, thereby serving their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

21. *Welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, particularly through the International Organization of la Francophonie, in the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to international conferences organized under the auspices of the United Nations, as witnessed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011;

22. *Also welcomes* the high-level meetings held periodically between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, to encourage the holding of periodic meetings between their representatives in order to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation;

23. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the steps necessary, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, to continue to promote cooperation between the two organizations;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie".

## RESOLUTION 67/230

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.49 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### 67/230. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/48 of 29 November 2000, 57/12 of 14 November 2002, 62/213 of 21 December 2007 and 65/120 of 10 December 2010,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[315]

*Acknowledging* that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being and that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

*Reaffirming* that development is a central goal by itself and that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of United Nations activities,

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[315] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Recognizing* that the well-being of people and the full development of their potential is pivotal to sustainable development, and convinced of the urgency of international cooperation towards that end,

*Deeply concerned* about persistent and considerable disparities between rich and poor, both within and among countries, and about the adverse implications of these disparities for the promotion of human development throughout the world,

*Taking account* of the significance of inequality in the global development agenda and the importance of continued efforts to strive for inclusive and equitable development approaches to overcome poverty and inequality,

*Taking note* of the work of the United Nations system and other actors in taking better account of inequality,

*Stressing* the multidimensional nature of inequality and unequal access to social and economic opportunities and their complex interrelationship with efforts to eradicate poverty and promote sustained, inclusive and equitable growth and sustainable development and the full enjoyment of human rights, especially for those people living in situations of vulnerability,

*Concerned* by the prevalence of gender inequality in various forms worldwide, which is often expressed in poorer outcomes for women relative to men on many social development indicators,

*Considering* that inequality continues to pose major barriers to attaining the Millennium Development Goals and that efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, often take inadequate account of the relationship and impact of inequality on economic and social development,

*Reaffirming* the need to achieve sustainable development by, inter alia, promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems,

*Recognizing* the need to encourage coherent and complementary policies to reduce inequality, to mainstream them into the activities of United Nations organizations and programmes and more effectively to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development,

*Recognizing also* the action already under way by all Member States, the United Nations system and other international, regional and national forums and organizations and the progress made to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[316]

2. *Underlines* the continued relevance of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the commitments set out therein, including the Millennium Development Goals, which have raised awareness and continue to generate real and important development gains, have played a vital role in shaping a broad development vision and constitute the overarching framework for the development activities of the United Nations, and strongly reiterates its determination to ensure the timely and full implementation of those outcomes and commitments;

3. *Recognizes* that the increased pace of globalization and growing interdependence have heightened the importance of international cooperation and multilateralism in meeting global challenges and solving common problems, including those that have arisen from the uneven impact of globalization on development and human well-being;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to promote human well-being and the full realization of human potential;

5. *Reaffirms* that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process and that there is no one-size-fits-all approach, and reiterates that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies, domestic resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized; domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economic system

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[316] A/67/394.

and therefore the effective use of trade and investment opportunities can help countries to fight poverty, and development efforts at the national level need to be supported by an enabling national and international environment that complements national actions and strategies;

6. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law, to mobilizing domestic resources, fostering international financial flows, assuring long-term investment in human capital and infrastructure, promoting international trade as an engine for economic growth and development and increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development, sustainable debt financing and external debt relief, and to enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems;

7. *Recognizes* that inequality within and among countries is a concern for all countries regardless of their level of development and that it represents a growing challenge with multiple implications for the realization of economic and social potential and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

8. *Also recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, and reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national development efforts to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

9. *Further recognizes* that attention must be focused on the particular needs of the people in developing countries and on the large and increasing economic and social inequality that exists, and further recognizes that disparities both within and among countries, including between developed and developing countries, and inequality between the rich and the poor and between rural and urban populations, inter alia, remain persistent and significant and need to be addressed;

10. *Recognizes* that the eradication of poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries and in some middle-income countries, and underlines the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, including full, productive employment generation and decent work for all;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of efforts to address all aspects and dimensions of inequality;

12. *Stresses* the critical need for the expansion of and access to education and training, and encourages programmes to promote universal access to secondary education and to expand access to quality higher education, which is relevant to the needs of the labour market, in accordance with each country's specific realities and development challenges;

13. *Invites* Member States to adopt a multisectoral approach and to work on determinants of health within sectors including, as appropriate, through the health-in-all-policies approach, while taking into consideration the social, environmental and economic determinants of health, with a view to reducing health inequities and enabling sustainable development, and stresses the urgent need to act on social determinants for the final push towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

14. *Encourages* Member States, in collaboration with other stakeholders where applicable, to plan or pursue the transition of their health systems towards universal coverage, while continuing to invest in and strengthen health-delivery systems to increase and safeguard the range and quality of services and to adequately meet the health needs of the population;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue ambitious efforts to address inequality;

16. *Recognizes* the efforts of many countries in addressing inequality, and acknowledges the need for strengthened international efforts to complement national efforts in this area;

17. *Encourages* Member States in their efforts to address inequality and in partnership with relevant stakeholders to consider as appropriate, inter alia, programmes to promote the participation and empowerment of all members of society, implementing social protection floors or extending the scope of existing social protection programmes;

18. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection that support labour-market participation and address and reduce inequality and social exclusion, and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage, and urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in or vulnerable to poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors which can provide a systemic base for addressing poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, on 14 June 2012;

19. *Encourages* greater consideration of the impact of social and economic inequality in development, including in the design and implementation of development strategies, and in this regard also encourages further analytical and empirical research, in particular by the relevant institutions of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions and other national and international organizations;

20. *Also encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the need to reduce inequality in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

21. *Recognizes* that regional, subregional and interregional cooperation can facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience and promote the most effective use of resources aimed at achieving human development and reducing inequality;

22. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, within existing resources, and in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, an informal thematic debate in 2013 to address the issue of inequality;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled "The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order".

## RESOLUTION 67/231

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/67/L.50 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Australia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden

### 67/231. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

*Reaffirming also* the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Reaffirming further* the Hyogo Declaration,[317] the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[318] and the common statement of the special session on the

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[317] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[318] Ibid., resolution 2.

Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future,[319] as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005, and bearing in mind that the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action is coming to an end in 2015,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the results of the midterm review of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and welcoming the upcoming fourth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Geneva from 19 to 23 May 2013, and the 2013 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction,

*Recognizing* that the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction will be convened in Japan in early 2015 to review the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and to adopt a framework for disaster risk reduction beyond 2015,

*Emphasizing* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance,

*Emphasizing also* that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

*Emphasizing further* the primary responsibility of each State to undertake disaster risk reduction, including through the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, as well as response and early recovery efforts, in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in this regard,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the increasing challenges to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity to deal with the consequences of natural disasters, given the effects of global challenges, including the impact of climate change, the ongoing adverse impact of the global financial and economic crisis and the negative impact of excessively volatile food prices on food security and nutrition, and other key factors that exacerbate the vulnerability of populations and exposure to natural hazards and the impact of natural disasters,

*Expressing its deep concern also* that rural and urban poor communities in the developing world are the hardest hit by the effects of increased disaster risk,

*Acknowledging* the impacts of rapid urbanization in the context of natural disasters and that urban disaster preparedness and responses require appropriate disaster risk reduction strategies, including in urban planning, and early recovery strategies implemented from the initial stage of relief operations, as well as mitigation, rehabilitation and sustainable development strategies,

*Noting* that local communities are the first responders in most disasters, underlining the critical role played by in-country capacities in disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, as well as response and recovery, and acknowledging the need to support efforts of Member States to develop and enhance national and local capacities which are fundamental to improving the overall delivery of humanitarian assistance,

*Recognizing* the high numbers of persons affected by natural disasters, including in this respect internally displaced persons, and the need to address the humanitarian and development needs arising from internal displacement throughout the world owing to natural disasters, and encouraging all relevant actors to consider making use of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[320] when dealing with situations of internal displacement,

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, in particular in preparedness, response and the early recovery phase, and of strengthening the response capacity of countries affected by disaster,

*Recognizing* the progress made by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in its mission, encouraging Member States to provide all support necessary, on a voluntary basis, to UN-SPIDER, including financial support, to enable it to carry out its workplan for 2012–2013, and reiterating the importance of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and by facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

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[319] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

[320] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

*Taking note* of the progress in the establishment of the Global Framework for Climate Services to develop and provide science-based climate information and prediction for climate risk management and for adaptation to climate variability and change, and looking forward to its implementation,

*Welcoming* the important role played by Member States, including developing countries, that have granted necessary and continued generous assistance to countries and peoples stricken by natural disasters,

*Recognizing* the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

*Emphasizing* the need to address vulnerability and to integrate disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, into all phases of natural disaster management, post-natural disaster recovery and development planning, through close collaboration of all relevant actors and sectors,

*Reaffirming* that strengthening resilience contributes to withstanding, adapting to and quickly recovering from disasters,

*Recognizing* that efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be adversely affected by natural disasters, and noting the positive contribution that those efforts can make in strengthening the resilience of populations to such disasters,

*Recognizing also* the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of short- and medium-term recovery leading to long-term development and that certain emergency measures should be seen as a step towards sustainable development,

*Emphasizing*, in this context, the important role of development organizations and other relevant stakeholders in supporting national efforts to mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[321]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the increasing impact of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to accelerate the full implementation of the Hyogo Declaration[317] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[318] in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to promote and strengthen disaster preparedness activities at all levels, in particular in hazard-prone areas, and encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to increase funding and cooperation for disaster risk reduction activities, including disaster preparedness;

5. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as appropriate;

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[321] A/67/363.

6. *Acknowledges* that climate change, among other factors, contributes to environmental degradation and to the increase in the intensity and frequency of climate and extreme weather events, both of which amplify disaster risk, and in this regard encourages Member States, as well as relevant regional, subregional and international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including through the provision of technology and support for capacity-building in developing countries;

7. *Welcomes* the growing number of initiatives undertaken at the regional and national levels to promote the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to take further steps to review and strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account the Guidelines, as appropriate, and welcomes the recent efforts of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to develop a model act on the subject;

8. *Also welcomes* the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and other relevant organizations, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and civil society, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

9. *Reiterates* the commitment to support, as a matter of priority, the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to reduce risks, prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact;

10. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen early warning systems, disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to continue to support national efforts in this regard;

11. *Also urges* Member States to improve their response to early warning information in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, and encourages all stakeholders to support the efforts of Member States in this regard;

12. *Encourages* Member States to consider elaborating and presenting to the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat their national platforms for disaster reduction in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action, and also encourages States to cooperate with each other to reach this objective;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of applying a multi-hazard approach to preparedness, and encourages Member States, taking into account their specific circumstances, and the United Nations system to continue to apply the approach to their preparedness activities, including by giving due regard to, inter alia, secondary environmental hazards stemming from industrial and technological accidents;

14. *Stresses* that, to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, of regional and subregional capacities for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, and more efficiently and at lower cost;

15. *Also stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the timely provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases of a disaster, from relief and recovery to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

16. *Encourages* all Member States to facilitate, to the extent possible, the transit of emergency humanitarian assistance and development assistance, provided in the context of international efforts, including in the phase from relief to development, in full accordance with the provisions of resolution 46/182 and the annex thereto, and in full respect of the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law;

17. *Reaffirms* the leading role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for advocacy for and coordination of humanitarian assistance among United Nations humanitarian organizations and other humanitarian partners;

18. *Welcomes* the important contribution of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system to the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance in supporting Member States, upon their request, and the United Nations system in preparedness and humanitarian response, and encourages the continued incorporation into this mechanism of experts from developing countries that are prone to natural disasters;

19. *Also welcomes* the important contribution of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group to the effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance, and encourages Member States to continue to support the Advisory Group, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002;

20. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to consider the specific and differentiated consequences of natural disasters both in rural and urban areas when designing and implementing disaster risk reduction, prevention and mitigation, preparedness, humanitarian assistance and early recovery strategies, giving special emphasis to addressing the needs of those living in rural and urban poor areas prone to natural disasters;

21. *Welcomes* the recent efforts by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts in situations of natural disasters, in order to cooperate effectively in providing humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence;

22. *Recognizes* that information and telecommunications technology can play an important role in disaster response, encourages Member States to develop emergency response telecommunications capacities and encourages the international community to assist the efforts of developing countries in this area, where needed, including in the recovery phase, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations[322] to consider doing so;

23. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies, including as provided by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), as well as the sharing of geographical data, for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate, and invites Member States to continue to provide their support to the consolidation of the United Nations capability in the area of satellite-derived geographical information for early warning, preparedness, response and early recovery;

24. *Recognizes* the opportunities for new technologies, when utilized in a coordinated fashion and based on humanitarian principles, potentially to improve the effectiveness and accountability of humanitarian response, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to consider engaging, inter alia, with the volunteer and technical communities in order to make use of the variety of data and information available during emergencies and disaster risk efforts;

25. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end;

26. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations system to support national initiatives that address the possible differentiated impacts of natural disasters on the affected population, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated, inter alia, by sex, age and disability, using, inter alia, the existing information provided by States, and through the development of tools, methods and procedures that will result in more timely and useful initial needs assessments;

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[322] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

27. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of, and make further progress towards, common humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

28. *Encourages* Member States to take steps to develop or to improve data collection and analysis and to facilitate the exchange of information with humanitarian organizations of the United Nations, in order to support preparedness efforts and to improve the effectiveness of a needs-based humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations system, as appropriate, and other relevant actors to continue to assist developing countries in their efforts to build local and national capacities for data collection and analysis;

29. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and of gender mainstreaming in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery strategies, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue ensuring that gender mainstreaming is better taken into account in all aspects of humanitarian responses and activities;

30. *Encourages* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to identify and improve the dissemination of best practices for improving disaster preparedness, response and early recovery and to scale up successful local initiatives, as appropriate;

31. *Requests* the United Nations humanitarian and development organizations to improve their coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, inter alia, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster preparedness, resilience-building and recovery, in support of national authorities, and by ensuring that development actors participate in strategic planning at an early stage;

32. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to improve the dissemination of tools and services to support enhanced disaster risk reduction, in particular preparedness, and early recovery;

33. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Member States, to strengthen tools and mechanisms to ensure that early recovery needs and support are integrated into the planning and implementation of disaster preparedness, humanitarian response and development cooperation activities, as appropriate;

34. *Encourages* the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream early recovery into humanitarian programming, acknowledges that early recovery is an important step towards resilience-building and should receive further funding, and encourages the provision of timely, flexible and predictable funding for early recovery, including through established and complementary humanitarian and development instruments;

35. *Stresses* the need to strengthen resilience at all levels, and in this regard encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant actors to support efforts, as appropriate, to integrate resilience in humanitarian and development programming;

36. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to support humanitarian coordinators and resident coordinators, in order to strengthen their capacity, inter alia, to support the host Government in implementing preparedness measures and to coordinate preparedness activities of country teams in support of national efforts, and encourages the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to further strengthen the ability to quickly and flexibly deploy humanitarian professionals to support Governments and country teams in the immediate aftermath of a disaster;

37. *Emphasizes* the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for recovery, preparedness and disaster risk reduction activities in order to ensure predictable and timely access to resources for humanitarian assistance in emergencies resulting from disasters associated with natural hazards;

38. *Welcomes* the achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund and its contribution to the promotion and enhancement of early humanitarian response, calls upon all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider increasing voluntary contributions to the Fund, including, when possible, through multi-year and early commitments, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

39. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience to disasters within the post-2015 development agenda and promoting a complementary and coherent approach between that agenda and the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction;

40. *Invites* Member States, the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider voluntary contributions to other humanitarian funding mechanisms;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the international response to natural disasters and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, and to include in his report recommendations on how to ensure that humanitarian assistance is provided in ways supportive of the transition from relief to development.

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## RESOLUTION 67/26

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/402, para. 7)[1]

### 67/26. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity and of the African Union,

*Recalling also* the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[2] in Cairo on 11 April 1996,

*Recalling further* the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[3] which emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

*Recalling* the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[4] affirming that the signature of the Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Considering* that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Recalls with satisfaction* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[2] on 15 July 2009;

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

3. *Welcomes* the convening of the first Conference of States Parties to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), in Addis Ababa on 4 November 2010, and looks forward to the second Conference of States Parties in November 2012;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols to the Treaty[2] that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols that concern them to do so as soon as possible;

5. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all measures necessary to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

6. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[5] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (*b*) of and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the model protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chair of the African Union Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Mexico, New Zealand, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[2] See A/50/426, annex.

[3] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

[4] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996*.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

## RESOLUTION 67/27

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/404, para. 7)[6]

### 67/27. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010 and 66/24 of 2 December 2011,

*Recalling also* its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

*Noting* that considerable progress has been made in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

*Affirming* that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

*Recalling*, in this connection, the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held in Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

*Bearing in mind* the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and the recommendations that were made,[7]

*Bearing in mind also* the results of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003 (first phase) and in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005 (second phase),[8]

*Noting* that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

*Expressing concern* that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

*Considering* that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

*Noting* the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70, 54/49, 55/28, 56/19, 57/53, 58/32, 59/61, 60/45, 61/54, 62/17, 63/37, 64/25, 65/41 and 66/24,

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[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[7] See A/51/261, annex.

[8] A/C.2/59/3, annex, and A/60/687.

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[9]

*Welcoming* the initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening international meetings of experts in Geneva in August 1999 and April 2008 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, as well as the results of those meetings,

*Considering* that the assessments of Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the international meetings of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

*Bearing in mind* that the Secretary-General, in fulfilment of resolution 60/45, established in 2009, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, a group of governmental experts, which, in accordance with its mandate, considered existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them and conducted a study on relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems,

*Welcoming* the effective work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the relevant report transmitted by the Secretary-General,[10]

*Taking note* of the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible strategies to address the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such strategies could be served through further examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,[10] to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(*c*) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 above;

(*d*) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level;

4. *Welcomes* the commencement of the work of the Group of Governmental Experts, authorizes the Group, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned report, to continue to study existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, including norms, rules or principles of responsible behaviour of States and confidence-building measures with regard to information space, as well as the concepts referred to in paragraph 2 above, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the results of the study;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

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[9] A/54/213, A/55/140 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/56/164 and Add.1, A/57/166 and Add.1, A/58/373, A/59/116 and Add.1, A/60/95 and Add.1, A/61/161 and Add.1, A/62/98 and Add.1, A/64/129 and Add.1, A/65/154, A/66/152 and Add.1 and A/67/167.

[10] See A/65/201.

## RESOLUTION 67/28

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/405, para. 7)[11]

### 67/28. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005, 61/56 of 6 December 2006, 62/18 of 5 December 2007, 63/38 of 2 December 2008, 64/26 of 2 December 2009, 65/42 of 8 December 2010 and 66/25 of 2 December 2011 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

*Recalling also* the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[12]

*Emphasizing* the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

*Emphasizing* the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

*Bearing in mind* the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

*Desirous* of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

*Welcoming* all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

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[11] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Arab States).

[12] Resolution S-10/2.

*Recognizing* the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Emphasizing* the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 66/25,[13]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[14]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(56)/RES/15, adopted on 20 September 2012 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-sixth regular session, concerning applications of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[12] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990[15] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

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[13] A/67/139 (Part I) and Add.1.

[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[15] A/45/435.

## RESOLUTION 67/29

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/406, para. 7),[16] by a recorded vote of 126 to none, with 57 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America

### 67/29. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

*Convinced* that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Noting* that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Determined* to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

*Recognizing* that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Considering* that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

*Recognizing* that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[17] in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

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[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[17] Resolution S-10/2.

*Recalling* the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[18] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[19] and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament,[20] as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[21]

*Recalling also* paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[22] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

*Taking note* of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

*Taking note also* of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[23] which was reiterated at the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[24] and Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 15 and 16 July 2009,[25] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

*Taking note further* of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

*Taking note* of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005, 61/57 of 6 December 2006, 62/19 of 5 December 2007, 63/39 of 2 December 2008, 64/27 of 2 December 2009, 65/43 of 8 December 2010 and 66/26 of 2 December 2011,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

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[18] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[19] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[20] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[21] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[22] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 39.

[23] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[24] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

[25] See S/2009/459, annex, para. 118.

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

## RESOLUTION 67/30

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/407, para. 7),[26] by a recorded vote of 183 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Israel, United States of America

### 67/30. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

*The General Assembly*,

*Recognizing* the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Reaffirming* the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Mauritania, Mauritius, Myanmar, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Uruguay.

*Reaffirming also* the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[27]

*Recalling* the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

*Reaffirming* paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[28] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

*Recognizing* that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

*Emphasizing* the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

*Considering* that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

*Noting* that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

*Noting also* that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,

*Emphasizing* the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

*Convinced* that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

*Stressing* that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

*Recalling*, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

*Conscious* of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

*Recognizing* that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

*Noting with satisfaction* the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012,

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[27] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[28] Resolution S-10/2.

*Taking note* of the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft Treaty on the Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space and of the Threat or Use of Force Against Outer Space Objects,

*Taking note also* of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[27]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" as early as possible during its 2013 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

## RESOLUTION 67/31

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[29] by a recorded vote of 146 to 2, with 35 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia,

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[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

### 67/31. Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/38 S of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A of 4 December 1998, 55/33 W of 20 November 2000, 57/69 of 22 November 2002, 61/88 of 6 December 2006, 63/63 of 2 December 2008 and 65/49 of 8 December 2010, and its decisions 54/417 of 1 December 1999, 56/412 of 29 November 2001, 58/518 of 8 December 2003, 59/513 of 3 December 2004 and 60/516 of 8 December 2005,

*Convinced* that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament, and emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of such zones in different regions of the world in the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

*Considering* that the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region,[30] constitutes an important step towards strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and ensuring regional and international peace and security,

*Considering also* that the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia is an effective contribution to combating international terrorism and preventing nuclear materials and technologies from falling into the hands of non-State actors, primarily terrorists,

*Reaffirming* the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

*Emphasizing* the role of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia in promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination, and the importance of stepping up efforts to ensure the safe and reliable storage of radioactive waste in the Central Asian States,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, and emphasizing its significance in the attainment of peace and security,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 21 March 2009 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;

2. *Notes* the readiness of the Central Asian countries to continue consultations with the nuclear-weapon States on a number of provisions of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;

3. *Welcomes* the submission at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of two working papers, on the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia and on the environmental consequences of uranium mining;

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[30] Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

4. *Also welcomes* the convening of three consultative meetings of States parties to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, on 15 October 2009 in Ashgabat, 15 March 2011 in Tashkent and 12 June 2012 in Astana, which identified joint activities by the Central Asian States to ensure fulfilment of the obligations set out in the Treaty and to develop cooperation on disarmament issues with international bodies, as well as the adoption of an action plan of the States parties to the Treaty to strengthen nuclear security, prevent the proliferation of nuclear materials and counter nuclear terrorism in Central Asia;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia".

## RESOLUTION 67/32

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[31] by a recorded vote of 165 to none, with 19 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Libya, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

### 67/32. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000, 56/24 M of 29 November 2001, 57/74 of 22 November 2002, 58/53 of 8 December 2003, 59/84 of 3 December 2004, 60/80 of 8 December 2005, 61/84 of 6 December 2006, 62/41 of 5 December 2007, 63/42 of 2 December 2008, 64/56 of 2 December 2009, 65/48 of 8 December 2010 and 66/29 of 2 December 2011,

*Reaffirming its determination* to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or injure thousands of people — women, girls, boys and men — every year, and which place people living in affected areas at risk and hinder the development of their communities,

*Believing it necessary* to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and to assure their destruction,

*Wishing* to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Cambodia and Slovenia.

*Noting with satisfaction* the work undertaken to implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[32] and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global anti-personnel landmine problem,

*Recalling* the first to eleventh meetings of the States parties to the Convention, held in Maputo (1999), Geneva (2000), Managua (2001), Geneva (2002), Bangkok (2003), Zagreb (2005), Geneva (2006), the Dead Sea (2007), Geneva (2008), Geneva (2010) and Phnom Penh (2011) and the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Nairobi (2004),

*Recalling also* the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 30 November to 4 December 2009, at which the international community reviewed the implementation of the Convention and the States parties adopted the Cartagena Declaration and the Cartagena Action Plan 2010–2014 to support enhanced implementation and promotion of the Convention,

*Noting with satisfaction* that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention to 160,

*Emphasizing* the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization and norms,

*Noting with regret* that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in some conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[32] to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but have not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the continued implementation of the Cartagena Action Plan 2010–2014;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education programmes and the removal and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

7. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach, seminars and other means;

8. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, to be held in Geneva from 3 to 7 December 2012, and to participate in the future meeting programme of the Convention;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention and, on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations, to attend the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties and future meetings as observers;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session an item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

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[32] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

## RESOLUTION 67/33

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[33] by a recorded vote of 135 to 22, with 26 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Norway, Palau, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

### 67/33. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003, 59/83 of 3 December 2004, 60/76 of 8 December 2005, 61/83 of 6 December 2006, 62/39 of 5 December 2007, 63/49 of 2 December 2008, 64/55 of 2 December 2009, 65/76 of 8 December 2010 and 66/46 of 2 December 2011,

*Convinced* that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to humanity and all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the realization of the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world through the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Mindful* of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[34] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[35] the unequivocal commitment of nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[36] and the action points agreed at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as part of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions on nuclear disarmament,[37]

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[33] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[34] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[35] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

*Sharing the deep concern* at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

*Calling upon* all nuclear-weapon States to undertake concrete disarmament efforts, and stressing that all States need to make special efforts to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the five-point proposal for nuclear disarmament of the Secretary-General, in which he proposes, inter alia, the consideration of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or agreement on a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification,

*Recalling* the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that the Antarctic Treaty,[38] the treaties of Tlatelolco,[39] Rarotonga,[40] Bangkok[41] and Pelindaba[42] and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, as well as Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

*Recognizing* the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

*Emphasizing* the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

*Stressing* the urgent need for the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate concrete progress on the 13 practical steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons leading to nuclear disarmament, contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference,[36]

*Taking note* of the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention that was submitted to the Secretary-General by Costa Rica and Malaysia in 2007 and circulated by the Secretary-General,[43]

*Desiring* to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[44]

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[36] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[37] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)), vol. I, part I.

[38] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[39] Ibid., vol. 634, No. 9068.

[40] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[41] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[42] A/50/426, annex.

[43] A/62/650, annex.

[44] A/51/218, annex.

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken with respect to the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its sixty-eighth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons".

## RESOLUTION 67/34

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[45] by a recorded vote of 175 to 6, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, India, Israel, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Bhutan, China, Micronesia (Federated States of), Pakistan, Palau

### 67/34. Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 66/40 of 2 December 2011,

*Reiterating its grave concern* at the danger to humanity posed by the possibility that nuclear weapons could be used,

*Recalling* the expression of deep concern by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,[46]

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[45] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belize, Brazil, Egypt, Georgia, Guinea, Ireland, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and Sweden.

[46] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

*Reaffirming* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing processes requiring urgent irreversible progress on both fronts,

*Recalling* the decisions entitled "Strengthening the review process for the Treaty", "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament" and "Extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" and the resolution on the Middle East, all of which were adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[47] and the Final Document of the 2000[48] and the 2010[49] Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Recalling in particular* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[50] agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference and reaffirmed by the 2010 Review Conference,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to apply the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of their treaty obligations,

*Recalling* that the 2010 Review Conference reaffirmed and recognized that the total elimination of nuclear weapons was the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding negative security assurances from nuclear-weapon States,

*Recognizing* the continued vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[51] to the advancement of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives, and welcoming the recent ratifications of the Treaty by Guatemala and Indonesia, the latter being listed in annex 2 to the Treaty, as well as its signature by Niue,

*Reaffirming* the conviction that the establishment and maintenance of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament, encouraging further progress towards strengthening all existing nuclear-weapon-free zones, including through the withdrawal of any reservations or interpretative declarations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing these zones, and recognizing the first preparatory meeting for the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in Vienna on 27 April 2012,

*Recognizing* efforts towards strengthening existing nuclear-weapon-free zones, including the ratification by the Russian Federation of protocols I and II to the Treaty of Pelindaba,[52] the steps taken by the United States of America towards the ratification of the protocols to the Treaty of Pelindaba and to the Treaty of Rarotonga,[53] and discussions between the States parties to the Treaty of Bangkok[54] and the nuclear-weapon States on the Protocol to that Treaty, as well as the recent declaration by the nuclear-weapon States in which they affirmed the nuclear-weapon-free status of Mongolia, and urging the successful conclusion of all outstanding issues as a matter of priority,

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[47] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[48] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[49] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[50] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[51] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[52] See A/50/426, annex.

[53] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[54] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

*Recalling* the encouragement expressed at the 2010 Review Conference for the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and expressing the hope that this will be followed by concerted international efforts to create such zones in areas where they do not currently exist, especially in the Middle East,

*Noting with satisfaction* the agreement at the 2010 Review Conference on practical steps to fully implement the 1995 resolution on the Middle East,

*Acknowledging* the ongoing efforts towards the full implementation of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, while re-emphasizing the encouragement of the 2010 Review Conference to both States to continue discussions on follow-on measures in order to achieve deeper reductions in their nuclear arsenals, addressing deployed and non-deployed nuclear weapons, both strategic and non-strategic, regardless of their location,

*Deeply disappointed* at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament issues, in particular in the Conference on Disarmament, despite efforts during 2012 to agree on a programme of work, and underlining the importance of multilateralism in relation to nuclear disarmament, while recognizing the value also of bilateral and regional initiatives,

*Welcoming* the holding of the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in Vienna from 30 April to 11 May 2012, and emphasizing the importance of a constructive and successful preparatory process leading to the 2015 Review Conference, which should contribute to strengthening the Treaty and make progress towards achieving its full implementation and universality and the monitoring of the commitments made and actions agreed at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conference,

1. *Reiterates* that each article of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[50] is binding on the States parties at all times and in all circumstances and that all States parties should be held fully accountable with respect to strict compliance with their obligations under the Treaty, and calls upon all States parties to comply fully with all decisions, resolutions and commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conference;

2. *Recalls with satisfaction* the adoption by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of a substantive final document containing conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions relating to nuclear disarmament, including concrete steps for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, nuclear non-proliferation, peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the Middle East, particularly implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East;[49]

3. *Welcomes*, in particular, the resolve of the 2010 Review Conference to seek a safer world for all and to achieve the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons, in accordance with the objectives of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

4. *Reiterates* the deep concern expressed by the 2010 Review Conference at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law;

5. *Recalls* the reaffirmation of the continued validity of the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[55] including the specific reaffirmation of the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty;

6. *Also recalls* the commitment by the nuclear-weapon States to undertake further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

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[55] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

7. *Underlines* the recognition by the 2010 Review Conference of the legitimate interests of non-nuclear-weapon States in the nuclear-weapon States constraining their development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and ending their development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take steps in this regard;

8. *Encourages* further steps by all nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with the action plan on nuclear disarmament of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference,[46] to ensure the irreversible removal of all fissile material designated by each nuclear-weapon State as no longer required for military purposes, urges the nuclear-weapon States to initiate and accelerate the development of multilateral arrangements for placing such material, including weapons-grade uranium and plutonium, under verification by the International Atomic Energy Agency and to make arrangements for the disposition of such material for peaceful purposes, and calls upon all States to support, within the context of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the development of appropriate nuclear disarmament verification capabilities and legally binding verification arrangements, thereby ensuring that such material remains permanently outside military programmes in a verifiable manner;

9. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to work towards the full implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[47] recognizes the endorsement by the 2010 Review Conference of practical steps in a process leading to the full implementation of the 1995 resolution, including the convening of a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the region, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution, in close consultation and cooperation with the States of the region, to undertake all necessary preparations for the convening of the 2012 conference, and in this regard fully supports the work of the facilitator, the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Security Policy of Finland, Mr. Jaakko Laajava;

11. *Continues to emphasize* the fundamental role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and calls upon all States parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty, and in this regard urges India, Israel and Pakistan to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions and to place all their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

12. *Urges* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to fulfil the commitments under the Six-Party Talks, including those in the September 2005 joint statement, to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes and to return, at an early date, to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to its adherence to the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards agreement, with a view to achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, and reaffirms its firm support for the Six-Party Talks;

13. *Urges* all States to work together to overcome obstacles within the international disarmament machinery that are inhibiting efforts to advance the cause of nuclear disarmament in a multilateral context, and to immediately implement the three specific recommendations of the 2010 Review Conference action plan addressed to the Conference on Disarmament;

14. *Recalls* that the commitment of the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament as envisaged in action 5 of the 2010 Review Conference action plan is:

(*a*) To rapidly move towards an overall reduction in the global stockpile of all types of nuclear weapons, as identified in action 3 of the action plan;

(*b*) To address the question of all nuclear weapons regardless of their type or their location as an integral part of the general nuclear disarmament process;

(*c*) To further diminish the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies;

(*d*) To discuss policies that could prevent the use of nuclear weapons and eventually lead to their elimination, lessen the danger of nuclear war and contribute to the non-proliferation and disarmament of nuclear weapons;

(*e*) To consider the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in further reducing the operational status of nuclear-weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security;

(*f*) To reduce the risk of accidental use of nuclear weapons;

(*g*) To further enhance transparency and mutual confidence;

15. *Stresses* the importance of the fulfilment by the nuclear-weapon States of the commitments they made at the 2010 Review Conference to accelerate concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, welcomes the meeting of the nuclear-weapon States held in Washington, D.C., from 27 to 29 June 2012 to consider progress to date in this regard, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take all necessary steps to accelerate the fulfilment of their commitments with a view to reporting substantive progress in 2014 to the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

16. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to implement their nuclear disarmament commitments in a manner that enables the States parties to regularly monitor progress, and to agree as soon as possible on a standard reporting format to facilitate reporting;

17. *Welcomes* the announcements made by some nuclear-weapon States providing information about their nuclear arsenals, policies and disarmament efforts, and urges those nuclear-weapon States that have not yet done so also to provide this information;

18. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to implement all elements of the 2010 Review Conference action plan in a faithful and timely manner so that progress across all of the pillars of the Treaty can be realized;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments" and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

## RESOLUTION 67/35

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[56] by a recorded vote of 181 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America

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[56] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

### 67/35. Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 65/51 of 8 December 2010,

*Determined* to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

*Recalling* the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons, as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[57] as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

*Emphasizing* the necessity of easing international tension and strengthening trust and confidence between States,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[58]

2. *Renews its previous call* to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare,[57] and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

3. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw them;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/36

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[59] by a recorded vote of 155 to 4, with 27 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine

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[57] League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV, No. 2138.

[58] A/67/115.

[59] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

## 67/36. Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international humanitarian law,

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/30 of 5 December 2007, 63/54 of 2 December 2008 and 65/55 of 8 December 2010,

*Determined* to promote multilateralism as an essential means to carry forward negotiations on arms regulation and disarmament,

*Taking note* of the opinions expressed by Member States and relevant international organizations on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, as reflected in the reports submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions 62/30, 63/54 and 65/55,[60]

*Recognizing* the importance of implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization to mitigate potential hazards to human beings and the environment from the contamination of territories with depleted uranium residues,

*Considering* that studies conducted so far by relevant international organizations have not provided a detailed enough account of the magnitude of the potential long-term effects on human beings and the environment of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium,

*Recalling* that the United Nations Environment Programme, in its report to the Secretary-General on the subject,[61] affirms that major scientific uncertainties persist regarding the long-term environmental impacts of depleted uranium, particularly with respect to long-term groundwater contamination, and calls for a precautionary approach to the use of depleted uranium,

*Convinced* that, as humankind becomes more aware of the need to take immediate measures to protect the environment, any event that could jeopardize such efforts requires urgent attention to implement the required measures,

*Taking into consideration* the potential harmful effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States and international organizations that submitted their views to the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 65/55 and previous resolutions on the subject;

2. *Invites* Member States and relevant international organizations, particularly those that have not yet done so, to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to request relevant international organizations to update and complete, as appropriate, their studies and research on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment;

4. *Encourages* Member States, particularly the affected States, as necessary, to facilitate the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to follow closely the development of the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

6. *Invites* Member States that have used armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium in armed conflicts to provide the relevant authorities of affected States, upon request, with information, as detailed as possible, about the location of the areas of use and the amounts used, with the objective of facilitating the assessment of such areas;

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[60] A/63/170 and Add.1, A/65/129 and Add.1 and A/67/177 and Add.1.

[61] A/65/129/Add.1, sect. III.

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an updated report on the subject to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, reflecting the information submitted by Member States and relevant international organizations, including the information submitted pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 above;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium".

## RESOLUTION 67/37

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[62]

### 67/37. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000, 56/24 F of 29 November 2001, 57/64 of 22 November 2002, 58/45 of 8 December 2003, 59/68 of 3 December 2004, 60/60 of 8 December 2005, 61/63 of 6 December 2006, 62/28 of 5 December 2007, 63/51 of 2 December 2008, 64/33 of 2 December 2009, 65/53 of 8 December 2010 and 66/31 of 2 December 2011,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

*Recognizing* that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 66/31,[63]

*Noting* that the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012, welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly, without a vote, of resolution 66/31, on the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control,[64]

*Mindful* of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[63]

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[62] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[63] A/67/130 and Add.1.

[64] See A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

## RESOLUTION 67/38

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[65] by a recorded vote of 132 to 5, with 50 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, Zambia

### 67/38. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

*The General Assembly,*

*Determined* to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003, 59/69 of 3 December 2004, 60/59 of 8 December 2005, 61/62 of 6 December 2006, 62/27 of 5 December 2007, 63/50 of 2 December 2008, 64/34 of 2 December 2009, 65/54 of 8 December 2010 and 66/32 of 2 December 2011 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

*Recalling also* the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and, to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[66] which states, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

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[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Brazil, and Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[66] Resolution 55/2.

*Convinced* that, in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected in one way or another by these problems and, therefore, should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

*Bearing in mind* the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

*Aware* of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

*Recognizing* the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

*Recognizing also* that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

*Considering* that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

*Stressing* that international cooperation, the peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would make an essential contribution to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

*Being concerned* at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

*Noting* that the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012, welcomed the adoption of resolution 66/32 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, and underlined the fact that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues,[67]

*Reaffirming* the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing mankind;

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[67] See A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 66/32;[68]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

## RESOLUTION 67/39

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[69] by a recorded vote of 179 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
*Against:* None
*Abstaining:* France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### 67/39. High-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Emphasizing* the importance of seeking a safer world for all and achieving peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* that effective measures of nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war have the highest priority,

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[68] A/67/131 and Add.1.

[69] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Recalling* the resolve by the Heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,[70]

*Reaffirming* the central role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament,

1. *Decides* to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, that will be held as a one-day plenary meeting on 26 September 2013, to contribute to achieving the goal of nuclear disarmament;

2. *Encourages* Member States to participate in the meeting at the highest level;

3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in collaboration with Member States, to make all the necessary arrangements for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that will participate in the high-level meeting;

5. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary as the outcome of the high-level meeting, which will be issued as a document of the General Assembly.

## RESOLUTION 67/40

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[71]

### 67/40. Relationship between disarmament and development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,[72] as well as the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[73]

*Recalling further* its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999, 55/33 L of 20 November 2000, 56/24 E of 29 November 2001, 57/65 of 22 November 2002, 59/78 of 3 December 2004, 60/61 of 8 December 2005, 61/64 of 6 December 2006, 62/48 of 5 December 2007, 63/52 of 2 December 2008, 64/32 of 2 December 2009, 65/52 of 8 December 2010 and 66/30 of 2 December 2011, and its decision 58/520 of 8 December 2003,

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[70] Resolution 55/2, para. 9.

[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[72] See resolution S-10/2.

[73] See *Report of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, New York, 24 August–11 September 1987* (A/CONF.130/39).

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,[74]

*Mindful* of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

*Bearing in mind* the new challenges for the international community in the fields of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

*Stressing* the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

*Recalling* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development[75] and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context,

*Bearing in mind* the importance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[73]

1. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the disarmament-development relationship, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to ensure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and subagencies;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[73]

3. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

4. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose in 2013, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

5. *Encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development into their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development;[75]

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the information provided by Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

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[74] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[75] See A/59/119.

## RESOLUTION 67/41

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[76]

### 67/41. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/34 of 2 December 2011 on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,

*Deeply concerned* by the magnitude of human casualty and suffering, especially among children, caused by the illicit proliferation and use of small arms and light weapons,

*Concerned* by the negative impact that the illicit proliferation and use of those weapons continue to have on the efforts of States in the Sahelo-Saharan subregion in the areas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the maintenance of peace, security and stability,

*Bearing in mind* the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted at Bamako on 1 December 2000,[77]

*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all",[78] in which he emphasized that States must strive just as hard to eliminate the threat of illicit small arms and light weapons as they do to eliminate the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

*Recalling also* the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted on 8 December 2005,[79]

*Recalling further* the expression of support in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[80]

*Recalling* the adoption, at the thirtieth ordinary summit of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Abuja in June 2006, of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, in replacement of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

*Recalling also* the entry into force of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials on 29 September 2009,

*Recalling further* the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish a Small Arms Unit responsible for advocating appropriate policies and developing and implementing programmes, as well as the establishment of the Economic Community's Small Arms Control Programme, launched on 6 June 2006 in Bamako, in replacement of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development,

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[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States), Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.

[77] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[78] A/59/2005.

[79] A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also decision 60/519.

[80] Resolution 60/1, para. 94.

*Taking note* of the latest report of the Secretary-General on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,[81]

*Recalling*, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the Economic Community in its efforts to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons,

*Recognizing* the important role that civil society organizations play, by raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons,

*Recalling* the reports of the United Nations Conferences to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 26 June to 7 July 2006 and from 27 August to 7 September 2012,[82]

1. *Commends* the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations for their assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons and collecting them in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

3. *Encourages* the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;

4. *Encourages* the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion to facilitate the effective functioning of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and in that regard invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible;

5. *Encourages* the collaboration of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[83]

6. *Encourages* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in support of programmes and projects aimed at combating the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to take action to help to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them".

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[81] A/67/176.

[82] A/CONF.192/2006/RC/9 and A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4.

[83] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

## RESOLUTION 67/42

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[84] by a recorded vote of 162 to 1, with 20 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia

*Against:* Iran (Islamic Republic of)

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen

### 67/42. The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation

*The General Assembly,*

*Concerned* about the increasing regional and global security challenges caused, inter alia, by the ongoing proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction,

*Bearing in mind* the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its role and responsibility in the field of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

*Emphasizing* the significance of regional and international efforts to prevent and curb comprehensively the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as a contribution to international peace and security,

*Welcoming* the adoption of The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation on 25 November 2002 at The Hague,[85] and convinced that the Code of Conduct will contribute to enhancing transparency and confidence among States,

*Recalling* its resolutions 59/91 of 3 December 2004, 60/62 of 8 December 2005, 63/64 of 2 December 2008 and 65/73 of 8 December 2010 entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation",

*Recalling also* that the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and subsequent resolutions, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

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[84] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[85] A/57/724, enclosure.

*Confirming its commitment* to the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries, as contained in the annex to its resolution 51/122 of 13 December 1996,

*Recognizing* that States should not be excluded from utilizing the benefits of space for peaceful purposes, but that in reaping such benefits and in conducting related cooperation they must not contribute to the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction,

*Mindful* of the need to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Recognizes* that 2012 marks a decade since the creation of The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation;[85]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that 134 States have so far subscribed to the Code of Conduct as a practical step against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

3. *Welcomes* the advancement of the universalization process of the Code of Conduct;

4. *Invites* all States that have not yet subscribed to the Code of Conduct to do so;

5. *Encourages* States that have already subscribed to the Code of Conduct to make efforts to increase participation in the Code and to further improve its implementation;

6. *Welcomes* the ongoing progress in implementation of the Code of Conduct, which contributes to enhancing transparency and building confidence among States through the submission of pre-launch notifications and annual declarations on space and ballistic missile policies, and underlines the importance of further steps in this direction;

7. *Encourages* the exploration of further ways and means to deal effectively with the problem of the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction and to deepen the relationship between the Code of Conduct and the United Nations;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation".

## RESOLUTION 67/43

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[86] by a recorded vote of 183 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan,

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[86] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*Abstaining:* Iran (Islamic Republic of)

## 67/43. Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* the threat to international peace and security posed by illicit brokering activities circumventing the international arms control and non-proliferation framework,

*Concerned* that, if proper measures are not taken, the illicit brokering of arms in all its aspects will adversely affect the maintenance of international peace and security, and prolong conflicts, and could be an obstacle to sustainable economic and social development and result in illicit transfers of conventional arms and the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors,

*Recognizing* the need for Member States to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities, which covers not only conventional arms but also materials, equipment and technology that could contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

*Reaffirming* that efforts to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities should not hamper the legitimate arms trade and international cooperation with respect to materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004, in particular paragraph 3, which determined that all States shall develop and maintain appropriate effective border controls and law enforcement efforts to detect, deter, prevent and combat, including through international cooperation when necessary, illicit trafficking and brokering of materials related to nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 65/75 of 8 December 2010,

*Taking note* of international efforts to prevent and combat illicit arms brokering, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[87] and the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[88]

*Noting* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/81 of 8 December 2005 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons[89] as an international initiative within the framework of the United Nations,

*Welcoming* efforts to implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and welcoming also in this regard the outcome document of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action, held in New York from 27 August to 7 September 2012,[90] including as it relates to illicit brokering of small arms and light weapons,

*Underlining* the inherent right of Member States to determine the specific scope and content of domestic regulations in accordance with their legislative frameworks and export control systems, consistent with international law,

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[87] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[88] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[89] A/62/163 and Corr.1.

[90] A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annex I.

*Welcoming* the efforts made by Member States to implement laws and/or administrative measures to regulate arms brokering within their legal systems,

*Encouraging* cooperation among Member States to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in nuclear materials, and recognizing in this regard existing efforts at all levels consistent with international law,

*Noting* the holding of the Nuclear Security Summit on 26 and 27 March 2012 in Seoul,

*Encouraging* Member States in a position to do so to share their experience and practices in relation to the control of illicit brokering and to further enhance international cooperation to this end,

*Noting with satisfaction* the activities of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in relation to preventing and combating illicit brokering activities,

*Acknowledging* the constructive role civil society can play in raising awareness and providing practical expertise on the prevention of illicit brokering activities,

1. *Underlines* the commitment of Member States to address the threat posed by illicit brokering activities;

2. *Encourages* Member States to fully implement relevant international treaties, instruments and resolutions to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities, and takes note of the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;[89]

3. *Calls upon* Member States to establish appropriate national laws and/or measures to prevent and combat the illicit brokering of conventional arms and materials, equipment and technology that could contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, in a manner consistent with international law;

4. *Acknowledges* that national efforts to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities can be reinforced by such efforts at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation and assistance, capacity-building and information-sharing in preventing and combating illicit brokering activities, and encourages Member States to take such measures as appropriate and in a manner consistent with international law;

6. *Encourages* Member States to draw, where appropriate, on the relevant expertise of civil society in developing effective measures to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities".

## RESOLUTION 67/44

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[91]

### 67/44. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/50 of 2 December 2011,

*Recognizing* the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

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[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

*Deeply concerned* by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

*Cognizant* of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,

*Recalling* the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[92]

*Recalling also* the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material[93] by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, which was held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,[94] for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

*Noting also* that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and the need for international cooperation in combating it, and that the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism has been launched jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States of America,

*Noting further* the holding of the Nuclear Security Summit on 12 and 13 April 2010 in Washington, D.C., and on 26 and 27 March 2012 in Seoul,

*Noting* the holding of the high-level meeting on countering nuclear terrorism, with a focus on strengthening the legal framework, in New York on 28 September 2012,

*Acknowledging* the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[95]

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-sixth regular session,

*Taking note also* of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly in September 2005[96] and the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 8 September 2006,[97]

*Taking note further* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 66/50,[98]

*Mindful* of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

*Emphasizing* that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Appeals* to all Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;[92]

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[92] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[93] Ibid., vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[94] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[95] See A/59/361.

[96] Resolution 60/1.

[97] Resolution 60/288.

[98] A/67/135 and Add.1.

## RESOLUTION 67/46

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[105] by a recorded vote of 164 to 4, with 19 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Andorra, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Palau, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Turkey

### 67/46. Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/36 of 5 December 2007, 63/41 of 2 December 2008 and 65/71 of 8 December 2010,

*Recalling also* that the maintenance of nuclear weapons on high alert was a feature of cold war nuclear postures, and welcoming the increased confidence and transparency since the cessation of the cold war,

*Concerned* that, notwithstanding the end of the cold war, several thousand nuclear weapons remain on high alert, ready to be launched within minutes,

*Noting* the continuing engagement in multilateral disarmament forums in support of further reductions to the operational status of nuclear weapons systems,

*Recognizing* that the maintenance of nuclear weapons systems at a high level of readiness increases the risk of the unintentional or accidental use of such weapons, which would have catastrophic humanitarian consequences,

*Recognizing also* that reductions in deployments and the lowering of operational status contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as to the process of nuclear disarmament, through the enhancement of confidence-building and transparency measures and a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies,

*Welcoming* the steps taken by some States in nuclear disarmament, including de-targeting initiatives, increasing the amount of preparation time required for deployment and other measures to diminish further the possibility of nuclear launches resulting from accidents, unauthorized actions or misperceptions,

*Welcoming also* the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[106] including the commitments of the nuclear-weapon States to promptly engage with a view to, inter alia, considering the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in further reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security,

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[105] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Austria, Belize, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru and Switzerland.

[106] *The 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)), vol. I, part I.

*Acknowledging*, in this regard, the continued dialogue among the nuclear-weapon States to advance their nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament commitments under the action plan of the 2010 Review Conference[106] and the potential of this process for leading to deeper engagement on nuclear disarmament and greater mutual confidence,

1. *Welcomes* the opportunities provided by meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to address the further reduction of the operational status of nuclear weapons systems as a step leading to nuclear disarmament, and looks forward to the reporting of the nuclear-weapon States on their undertakings in this regard to the Preparatory Committee at its third session, in 2014;

2. *Calls for* further practical steps to be taken to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems, with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status;

3. *Urges* States to update the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

## RESOLUTION 67/47

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[107]

### 67/47. United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/33 E of 20 November 2000, 57/60 of 22 November 2002, 59/93 of 3 December 2004, 61/73 of 6 December 2006, 63/70 of 2 December 2008 and 65/77 of 8 December 2010,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[108] in which the Secretary-General reported on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[109] and recalling that 2012 marks the tenth anniversary of that report,

*Recognizing* the usefulness of the disarmament and non-proliferation education website "Disarmament education: resources for learning" which was reorganized and updated in September 2011 by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat to include the six official languages of the United Nations and a new interactive presentation, and encouraging the use of new communication technologies and social media for the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

*Recognizing also* the launch of the "Disarmament today" series of podcasts, in which experts are interviewed about present-day disarmament issues, such as education, disarmament and non-proliferation in the context of space security, as well as the experiences of the hibakusha, the atomic bomb survivors,

*Emphasizing* that the Secretary-General concludes in his report that efforts need to be continued to implement the recommendations of the study and follow the good examples of how they are being implemented to stimulate even further long-term results,

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[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[108] A/67/138 and Add.1.

[109] A/57/124.

*Desirous* of stressing the urgency of promoting concerted international efforts at disarmament and non-proliferation, in particular in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with a view to strengthening international security and enhancing sustainable economic and social development,

*Conscious* of the need to combat the negative effects of cultures of violence and complacency in the face of current dangers in this field through long-term programmes of education and training,

*Remaining convinced* that the need for disarmament and non-proliferation education, particularly among youth, has never been greater, not only on the subject of weapons of mass destruction but also in the field of small arms and light weapons, terrorism and other challenges to international security and the process of disarmament, as well as on the relevance of implementing the recommendations contained in the United Nations study,

*Recognizing* the importance of the participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, which plays an active role in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, which, within their purview, implemented the recommendations made in the United Nations study,[109] as discussed in the report of the Secretary-General reviewing the implementation of the recommendations,[108] and encourages them once again to continue applying those recommendations and reporting to the Secretary-General on steps taken to implement them;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report reviewing the results of the implementation of the recommendations and possible new opportunities for promoting disarmament and non-proliferation education, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

3. *Reiterates* the request to the Secretary-General to utilize electronic means to the fullest extent possible in the dissemination, in as many official languages as feasible, of information related to that report and any other information that the Office for Disarmament Affairs gathers on an ongoing basis in regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Disarmament and non-proliferation education".

## RESOLUTION 67/48

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[110]

### 67/48. Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms the equal rights of women and men,

*Recalling also* its resolution 65/69 of 8 December 2010,

*Recalling further* General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on the issue of women and peace and security,

*Recognizing* that the equal, full and effective participation of both women and men is one of the essential factors for the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security,

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[110] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America.

*Recognizing also* the valuable contribution of women to practical disarmament measures carried out at the local, national, subregional and regional levels in the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict, and in promoting disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

*Recognizing further* that the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control should be further developed,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts of Member States to increase the participation of women in their national and regional coordination mechanisms on disarmament-related matters, including in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

1. *Urges* Member States, relevant subregional and regional organizations, the United Nations and specialized agencies to promote equal opportunities for the representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, in particular as it relates to the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict;

2. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to accord high priority to the issue of women and peace and security, and in this regard notes the role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in promoting the implementation of all resolutions related to women in the context of peace and security;

3. *Urges* Member States to support and strengthen the effective participation of women in organizations in the field of disarmament at the local, national, subregional and regional levels;

4. *Calls upon* all States to empower women, including through capacity-building efforts, as appropriate, to participate in the design and implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control efforts;

5. *Requests* the relevant United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to assist States, upon request, in promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, including in preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on ways and means of promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control".

## RESOLUTION 67/49

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[111]

### 67/49. Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* the contribution of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms, adopted on the initiative and with the agreement of the States concerned, to the improvement of the overall international peace and security situation,

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[111] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

*Convinced* that the relationship between the development of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and the international security environment can also be mutually reinforcing,

*Considering* the important role that confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms can also play in creating favourable conditions for progress in the field of disarmament,

*Recognizing* that the exchange of information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

*Recalling* its resolutions 59/92 of 3 December 2004, 60/82 of 8 December 2005, 61/79 of 6 December 2006, 63/57 of 2 December 2008 and 65/63 of 8 December 2010,

1. *Welcomes* all confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms already undertaken by Member States, as well as the information on such measures voluntarily provided;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to adopt and apply confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and to provide information in that regard;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to continue the dialogue on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment and continuing operation of the database containing information provided by Member States, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the database updated and to assist Member States, at their request, in the organization of seminars, courses and workshops aimed at enhancing the knowledge of new developments in this field;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 65/63;[112]

6. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the report, including the importance of tailoring confidence-building measures agreed in regional and subregional or bilateral contexts to the particular security concerns of States within a region and subregion;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms".

## RESOLUTION 67/50

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[113]

### 67/50. Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997, 53/77 M of 4 December 1998, 54/54 H of 1 December 1999, 55/33 G of 20 November 2000, 56/24 P of 29 November 2001 and 57/81 of 22 November 2002, its decision 58/519 of 8 December 2003, as well as its resolutions 59/82 of 3 December 2004, and 61/76 of 6 December 2006, 63/62 of 2 December 2008 and 65/67 of 8 December 2010 entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures",

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[112] A/66/176.

[113] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

*Convinced* that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective post-conflict peacebuilding; such measures include collection and responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of weapons obtained through illicit trafficking or illicit manufacture as well as of weapons and ammunition declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered; confidence-building measures; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; demining; and conversion,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, including their ammunition, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

*Stressing* that further efforts are needed in order to develop and effectively implement programmes of practical disarmament in affected areas as part of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration measures so as to complement, on a case-by-case basis, peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on prevention of armed conflict,[114] which, inter alia, refers to the role which the proliferation and the illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons play in the context of the build-up and sustaining of conflicts,

*Taking note* of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 August 2001[115] underlining the importance of practical disarmament measures in the context of armed conflicts, and, with regard to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, emphasizing the importance of measures to contain the security risks stemming from the use of illicit small arms and light weapons,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms[116] and, in particular, the recommendations contained therein, as an important contribution to the consolidation of the peace process through practical disarmament measures,

*Welcoming* the work of the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism, which was established by the Secretary-General to bring about a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to this complex and multifaceted global problem,

*Welcoming also* the establishment, within the United Nations system, of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, which provides a comprehensive tool to facilitate international cooperation and assistance for the implementation of practical disarmament measures, including the matching of assistance needs with available resources,

*Welcoming further* the reports of the first,[117] second,[118] third[119] and fourth[120] biennial meetings of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, which, inter alia, underlined that States are encouraged to build on existing mechanisms, such as the enhanced Programme of Action Implementation Support System, and to consider other ways in which needs and resources can be matched effectively and assistance and cooperation can be more effectively coordinated,[121]

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[114] A/55/985-S/2001/574 and Corr.1.

[115] S/PRST/2001/21; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002*.

[116] A/61/288.

[117] A/CONF.192/BMS/2003/1.

[118] A/CONF.192/BMS/2005/1.

[119] A/CONF.192/BMS/2008/3.

[120] A/CONF.192/BMS/2010/3.

[121] Ibid., sect. V, para. 30 (*h*).

*Welcoming in particular* the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[122] reaffirming the support of States and their commitment to the full and effective implementation of all the provisions of the Programme of Action[123] and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,[124] with a view to ending the human suffering caused by the illicit trade in and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons and their diversion into the illicit market;

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures, submitted pursuant to resolution 65/67,[125] and encourages Member States as well as regional arrangements and agencies to lend their support to the implementation of recommendations contained therein;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of including in United Nations-mandated peacekeeping missions, as appropriate and with the consent of the host State, practical disarmament measures aimed at addressing the problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in conjunction with disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes aimed at former combatants, with a view to promoting an integrated comprehensive and effective weapons management strategy that would contribute to a sustainable peacebuilding process;

3. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the Group of Interested States, and invites the Group to continue to promote, on the basis of lessons learned from previous disarmament and peacebuilding projects, new practical disarmament measures to consolidate peace, especially as undertaken or designed by affected States themselves, regional and subregional organizations as well as United Nations agencies;

4. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Group of Interested States to continue to function as an informal, open and transparent forum supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[123] and encourages the Group to facilitate the exchange of views on issues related to the United Nations small arms process as well as to continue efforts to facilitate the effective matching of needs and resources in accordance with the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[122] thus effectively supporting its implementation;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat with resources adequate for maintaining the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, thus securing its important role in identifying and communicating information on needs and resources so as to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action;

6. *Encourages* Member States, also in the framework of the Group of Interested States, to continue to lend their support to the Secretary-General, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons, including their ammunition, in post-conflict situations;

7. *Welcomes* the synergies within the multi-stakeholder process, including Governments, the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and institutions as well as non-governmental organizations in support of practical disarmament measures and the Programme of Action;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of practical disarmament measures, taking into consideration the activities of the Group of Interested States in this regard;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures".

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[122] A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annex I.

[123] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[124] A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also decision 60/519.

[125] A/67/176.

## RESOLUTION 67/51

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[126]

### 67/51. Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/46 of 5 December 2007 and 65/74 of 8 December 2010,

*Recognizing* the essential contribution of radioactive materials and sources to social and economic development, and the benefits drawn from their use for all States,

*Recognizing also* the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

*Deeply concerned* by the threat of terrorism and the risk that terrorists may acquire, traffic in or use radioactive materials or sources in radiological dispersion or emitting devices,

*Deeply concerned also* by the potential threat to human health and the environment that would result from the use of such devices by terrorists,

*Recalling* the importance of international conventions aimed at preventing and suppressing such a risk, in particular the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted on 13 April 2005,[127] and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted on 26 October 1979,[128] as well as its Amendment, adopted on 8 July 2005,[129]

*Noting* that actions of the international community to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material, notably Security Council resolutions 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and 1977 (2011) of 20 April 2011, constitute contributions to the protection against nuclear and radiological terrorism,

*Stressing* the importance of the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in promoting and reinforcing the safety and security of radioactive materials and sources, in particular by establishing technical guidance and supporting States in the improvement of national legal and regulatory infrastructure, and in strengthening coordination and complementarities among various nuclear or radiological security activities,

*Noting*, to this end, the announcement by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, to be held in Vienna from 1 to 5 July 2013, as well as the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Maintaining the Continuous Global Control of Sources throughout their Life Cycle, to be held in Abu Dhabi from 27 to 31 October 2013,

*Stressing* the contribution of the International Atomic Energy Agency to preventing illicit trafficking in radioactive materials and identifying vulnerabilities in security systems through, inter alia, the Illicit Trafficking Database and its work in the field of nuclear forensics,

*Taking note* of the importance of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[130] with respect to its provisions on the safety of the end of life of radioactive sources,

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[126] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[127] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[128] Ibid., vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[129] See International Atomic Energy Agency, document GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6, attachment.

[130] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2153, No. 37605.

*Taking note also* of the importance of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and of the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources as valuable instruments for enhancing the safety and security of radioactive sources, while recognizing that the Code is not a legally binding instrument, and of the International Atomic Energy Agency Revised Action Plan for the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its Nuclear Security Plan for 2010–2013, and of the voluntary contributions of Member States to the International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Security Fund,

*Encouraging* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Security Fund,

*Taking note* of resolutions GC(56)/RES/9 and GC(56)/RES/10, adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-sixth regular session, which address measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety and measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism, and of the International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Security Plan for 2010–2013,

*Welcoming* the fact that Member States have taken multilateral actions to address this issue, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 66/7 of 2 November 2011,

*Noting* the various international efforts and partnerships to enhance nuclear and radiological security and to implement measures contributing to nuclear material security in relation to the security of radioactive substances, and encouraging the efforts to secure those materials,

*Noting also* the establishment in May 2011 of the Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), which works with nations to strengthen capabilities to counter nuclear smuggling and prevent terrorists from acquiring nuclear or radiological materials, as well as INTERPOL Operation Fail Safe, which promotes the sharing of sensitive law-enforcement information on known nuclear smugglers,

*Welcoming* the ongoing individual and collective efforts of Member States to take into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the lack or insufficiency of control over radioactive materials and sources, and recognizing the need for States to take more effective measures to strengthen those controls in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law,

*Mindful* of the responsibilities of every Member State, in accordance with international obligations, to maintain effective nuclear safety and security, asserting that responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities,

*Mindful also* of the urgent need to address, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this rising concern for international security,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to support international efforts to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources, and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law;

2. *Urges* Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources, as well as terrorist attacks on nuclear plants and facilities which would result in radioactive releases, and, if necessary, to suppress such acts, in particular by taking effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect such facilities, materials and sources in accordance with their international obligations;

3. *Encourages* Member States to enhance their national capacities with appropriate means of detection and related architecture or systems, including through international cooperation and assistance in conformity with international law and regulations, with a view to detecting and preventing illicit trafficking in radioactive materials and sources;

4. *Encourages* all Member States that have not yet done so to become party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism[127] as soon as possible, in accordance with their legal and constitutional processes;

5. *Invites* Member States, in particular those producing and distributing radioactive sources, to support and endorse the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the safety and security of radioactive sources, as described in General Conference resolution GC(56)/RES/10 and to enhance the security of radioactive

sources as described in the Nuclear Security Plan for 2010–2013, urges all States to work towards following the guidance contained in the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, including, as appropriate, the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, noting that the Guidance is supplementary to the Code, and encourages Member States to notify the Director General of the Agency of their intention to do so pursuant to General Conference resolution GC(56)/RES/9;

6. *Recognizes* the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources, and takes note of the endorsement by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency of a proposal for a formalized process for a voluntary periodic exchange on information and lessons learned and for the evaluation of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Member States, including through international cooperation under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to search for, locate, secure and recover unsecured and/or uncontrolled ("orphan") radioactive sources within their State jurisdiction or territory;

8. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and through relevant international and, where appropriate, regional organizations aimed at strengthening national capacities in this regard;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources".

## RESOLUTION 67/52

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[131]

### 67/52. Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/77 D of 4 December 1998, 55/33 S of 20 November 2000, 57/67 of 22 November 2002, 59/73 of 3 December 2004, 61/87 of 6 December 2006, 63/56 of 2 December 2008 and 65/70 of 8 December 2010,

*Recalling also* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[132]

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 49/31 of 9 December 1994 on the protection and security of small States,

*Proceeding* from the fact that nuclear-weapon-free status is one of the means of ensuring the national security of States,

*Convinced* that the internationally recognized status of Mongolia contributes to enhancing stability and confidence-building in the region and promotes Mongolia's security by strengthening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and the preservation of its ecological balance,

*Welcoming* the declaration by Mongolia regarding its nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,[133]

*Welcoming also* the joint declaration of the five nuclear-weapon States on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,[134]

*Noting* that the declarations referred to above have been transmitted to the Security Council,

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[131] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, China, France, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[132] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[133] A/67/517-S/2012/760, annex.

[134] A/67/393-S/2012/721, annex.

*Welcoming* the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status[135] as a concrete step towards promoting the aims of nuclear non-proliferation,

*Bearing in mind* the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States on security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status[136] as a contribution to the implementation of resolution 53/77 D, as well as their commitment to Mongolia to cooperate in the implementation of the resolution, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

*Mindful* of the support expressed for Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status by the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries at the Thirteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[137] the Fourteenth Conference, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[138] the Fifteenth Summit Conference, held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[139] and the Sixteenth Conference, held in Tehran, from 26 to 31 August 2012,[140] and by Ministers at the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 29 and 30 July 2008,[141]

*Noting* that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco,[142] Rarotonga,[143] Bangkok[144] and Pelindaba[145] expressed their recognition and full support for Mongolia's international nuclear-weapon-free status at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,[146]

*Noting also* that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba and to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia expressed support for Mongolia's policy at the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in New York on 30 April 2010,

*Noting further* other measures taken to implement resolution 65/70 at the national and international levels,

*Welcoming* Mongolia's active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the States of the region and other States,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[147]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[147]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the efforts to implement resolution 65/70;[148]

3. *Welcomes* the declarations of 17 September 2012 by Mongolia[133] and the five nuclear-weapon States[134] on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete contribution to nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the enhancement of confidence and predictability in the region;

4. *Welcomes and supports* the measures taken by Mongolia to consolidate and strengthen this status;

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[135] See A/55/56-S/2000/160.

[136] A/55/530-S/2000/1052, annex.

[137] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[138] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

[139] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[140] See A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[141] See A/62/929, annex I.

[142] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[143] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[144] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[145] A/50/426, annex.

[146] See A/60/121, annex III.

[147] A/67/166.

[148] Ibid., sect. III.

5. *Endorses and supports* Mongolia's good-neighbourly and balanced relationship with its neighbours as an important element of strengthening regional peace, security and stability;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States to cooperate with Mongolia in implementing resolution 65/70, as well as the progress made in consolidating Mongolia's international security;

7. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the necessary measures to consolidate and strengthen Mongolia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its independent foreign policy, its economic security and its ecological balance, as well as its nuclear-weapon-free status;

8. *Appeals* to the Member States of the Asia and Pacific region to support Mongolia's efforts to join the relevant regional security and economic arrangements;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures mentioned in paragraph 7 above;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status".

## RESOLUTION 67/53

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[149] by a recorded vote of 166 to 1, with 21 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Pakistan

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Bahrain, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Yemen

### 67/53. Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993, 53/77 I of 4 December 1998, 55/33 Y of 20 November 2000, 56/24 J of 29 November 2001, 57/80 of 22 November 2002, 58/57 of 8 December 2003, 59/81 of 3 December 2004, 64/29 of 2 December 2009, 65/65 of 8 December 2010 and 66/44 of 2 December 2011 on the subject of banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

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[149] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Canada.

*Recalling also* document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995, in which all members of the Conference on Disarmament agreed on the mandate to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and which would not preclude any delegation from raising for consideration, in negotiations, any issue noted therein,

*Mindful* of the continuing importance and relevance of the Conference on Disarmament, and recalling the past achievements of that body in successfully negotiating arms control and disarmament agreements,

*Recalling* the support for the Conference on Disarmament expressed by the Security Council summit on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, held on 24 September 2009, as well as similar messages expressed at the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, held in New York on 24 September 2010, and the follow-up plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held from 27 to 29 July 2011,

*Expressing frustration* with the years of stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament, and looking forward to the Conference again fulfilling its mandate as the world's single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

*Convinced* that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,

*Recognizing* the importance of advancing all issues identified in decision CD/1864, adopted by consensus by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,

*Welcoming* the discussions involving scientific experts on various technical aspects of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices that have taken place in Geneva, both within and on the margins of the Conference on Disarmament, in support of the early commencement of negotiations, including those meetings that took place in 2012 pursuant to resolution 66/44,

*Noting* the determination expressed by China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America at the meeting held in Washington, D.C., from 27 to 29 June 2012 to renew their efforts, with relevant parties, to achieve a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices at the earliest possible date in the Conference on Disarmament,

*Noting also* that the Conference on Disarmament did not succeed in adopting a programme of work by the end of its 2012 session,

1. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on and implement early in 2013 a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, including possible aspects thereof, and to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to establish a group of governmental experts with a membership of 25 States chosen on the basis of equitable geographical representation, which, taking into account the report containing the views of Member States, will make recommendations on possible aspects that could contribute to but not negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein, which will operate on the basis of consensus, without prejudice to national positions in future negotiations and which will meet in Geneva for two sessions of two weeks in 2014 and in 2015;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the group of governmental experts to the General Assembly at its seventieth session and to the Conference on Disarmament;

5. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to take note of the report of the group of governmental experts and consider further action as appropriate;

6. *Decides* that, should the Conference on Disarmament agree upon and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, the group of governmental experts shall conclude and its work shall be submitted to the Secretary-General for onward transmission to the Conference on Disarmament;

7. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices".

## RESOLUTION 67/54

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[150]

### 67/54. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 66/35 of 2 December 2011, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[151]

*Determined* to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

*Noting with satisfaction* that, since the adoption of resolution 63/48 of 2 December 2008, four additional States have acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to 188,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the outcome of the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Second Review Conference"), including the consensus final report, which addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

*Emphasizing* that the Second Review Conference welcomed the fact that, 11 years after its entry into force, the Convention remained a unique multilateral agreement banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction in a non-discriminatory and verifiable manner under strict and effective international control,

1. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[151] is fundamental to the achievement of its objective and purpose, acknowledges progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Underlines* that implementation of the Convention makes a major contribution to international peace and security through the elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons and the prohibition of the acquisition or use of chemical weapons, and provides for assistance and protection in the event of use, or threat of use, of chemical weapons and for international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities;

3. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

4. *Recalls* that, at its sixteenth session, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction decided that, if the final extended deadline had not been fully met, the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons in the possessor States concerned should be completed in the shortest time possible in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Verification Annex and under the verification of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, as prescribed under the Convention and the Verification Annex;

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[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Poland.

[151] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

5. *Stresses* that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

6. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

8. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

9. *Welcomes* progress made in the national implementation of article VII obligations, commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of the follow-up to the plan of action regarding article VII obligations, and urges States parties that have not fulfilled their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes;

10. *Emphasizes* the continuing relevance and importance of the provisions of article X of the Convention, and welcomes the activities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons;

11. *Reaffirms* that the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States parties and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information, and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of article XI provisions relating to the economic and technological development of States parties, recalls that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of those provisions contributes to universality, and also reaffirms the undertaking of the States parties to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities of the States parties and the importance of that cooperation and its contribution to the promotion of the Convention as a whole;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

14. *Notes* the ongoing preparatory work by the States parties on the substance of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention;

15. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

## RESOLUTION 67/55

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[152] by a recorded vote of 179 to 4, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of),

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[152] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau

### 67/55. Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998, 54/54 L of 1 December 1999, 55/33 I of 20 November 2000, 56/24 G of 29 November 2001, 57/73 of 22 November 2002, 58/49 of 8 December 2003, 59/85 of 3 December 2004, 60/58 of 8 December 2005, 61/69 of 6 December 2006, 62/35 of 5 December 2007, 63/65 of 2 December 2008, 64/44 of 2 December 2009 and 65/58 of 8 December 2010,

*Recalling also* the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[153]

*Recalling further* the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[154]

*Determined* to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Determined also* to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[155] which reaffirmed the conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament,

*Stressing* the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[156] Rarotonga,[157] Bangkok[158] and Pelindaba[159] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[160] inter alia, for achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

*Welcoming* the first preparatory meeting for the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in Vienna on 27 April 2012,

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[153] Resolution S-10/2.

[154] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[155] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[156] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[157] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[158] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[159] A/50/426, annex.

[160] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

*Noting* that 115 States are currently parties and signatories to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties,

*Underlining* the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

*Reaffirming* the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[161]

1. *Reaffirms its conviction* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and calls for greater progress towards the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

2. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[160] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[156] Rarotonga,[157] Bangkok[158] and Pelindaba[159] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that all nuclear-weapon-free zones in the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas are now in force;

4. *Calls upon* all States concerned to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so, and in this regard welcomes the ratification by the Russian Federation of protocols I and II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, the steps taken by the United States of America towards the ratification of the protocols to the Treaty of Pelindaba and to the Treaty of Rarotonga, and the consultations between the parties to the Bangkok Treaty and the nuclear-weapon States on the Protocol to that Treaty;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to withdraw any reservations or interpretive declarations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones;

6. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

7. *Congratulates* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, as well as of Central Asia and Mongolia, for their efforts to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, and calls upon them to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

8. *Encourages* efforts to reinforce the coordination among nuclear-weapon-free zones with a view to the convening by Indonesia of the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia;

9. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to those treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of the goals of the treaties;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

## RESOLUTION 67/56

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[162] by a recorded vote of 147 to 4, with 31 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana,

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[161] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[162] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Slovenia, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cambodia, China, Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, Nepal, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan

## 67/56. Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

*The General Assembly*,

*Deeply concerned* about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* the Declaration of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[163] which states, inter alia, that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations, and that all States have the right to participate in disarmament negotiations,

*Reaffirming* the role and functions of the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission, as set out in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[164]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[165] which states, inter alia, that responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

*Welcoming* the efforts by Member States to secure progress in multilateral disarmament and the support of the Secretary-General for such efforts, and noting in this regard the Secretary-General's five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* the outcome, including the action points, of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[166]

*Reaffirming* the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

*Recognizing* the absence of concrete outcomes of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations within the United Nations framework for more than a decade,

*Recognizing also* the increased political attention to disarmament and non-proliferation issues and that the international political climate is more conducive to the promotion of multilateral disarmament and to moving towards the goal of a world without nuclear weapons,

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[163] Resolution S-10/2, sect. II.

[164] Ibid., sect. IV.

[165] Resolution 55/2.

[166] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

*Emphasizing* the importance and urgency of substantive progress on priority disarmament and non-proliferation issues,

*Recognizing* the important contribution that civil society makes to multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control processes,

*Mindful* of Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning the functions and powers of the General Assembly to consider and make recommendations, including recommendations with regard to disarmament,

1. *Decides* to establish an open-ended working group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons;

2. *Also decides* that the working group shall convene in Geneva in 2013 for up to 15 working days, within available timeframes, with the contribution of international organizations and civil society, in accordance with established practice, and shall hold its organizational session as soon as possible;

3. *Further decides* that the working group shall submit a report on its work, reflecting discussions held and all proposals made, to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, which will assess its work, taking into account developments in other relevant forums;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, within available resources, the support necessary to convene the working group and also to transmit the report of the working group to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session an item entitled "Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations".

## RESOLUTION 67/57

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[167]

### 67/57. Regional disarmament

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003, 59/89 of 3 December 2004, 60/63 of 8 December 2005, 61/80 of 6 December 2006, 62/38 of 5 December 2007, 63/43 of 2 December 2008, 64/41 of 2 December 2009, 65/45 of 8 December 2010 and 66/36 of 2 December 2011 on regional disarmament,

*Believing* that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

*Affirming* the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

*Noting* that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[168]

*Taking note* of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[169]

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[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Indonesia, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Turkey.

[168] Resolution S-10/2.

[169] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

*Welcoming* the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

*Taking note* of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

*Recognizing* the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

*Convinced* that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Regional disarmament".

## RESOLUTION 67/58

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[170]

### 67/58. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/47 of 2 December 2011, as well as all previous resolutions entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects", including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[171] and recognizing its important contribution to international efforts on this matter,

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[170] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[171] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

*Emphasizing also* the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),[172]

*Mindful* of the implementation of the outcomes adopted by the follow-up meetings of the Programme of Action,

*Recalling* the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

*Underlining* the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

*Welcoming* the successful conclusion of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 27 August to 7 September 2012,

*Stressing* the importance of voluntary national reporting to follow up on the Programme of Action as a means of assessing overall implementation efforts, including implementation challenges and opportunities, and which could greatly facilitate the rendering of international cooperation and assistance to affected States,

*Noting* that tools developed by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, including the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, and those developed by Member States could be used to assess progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Welcoming* the coordinated efforts within the United Nations to implement the Programme of Action, including by developing the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, which forms an integrated clearing house for international cooperation and assistance for capacity-building in the area of small arms and light weapons,

*Taking into account* the importance of regional approaches to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Noting with satisfaction* regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including tackling both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

*Reiterating* that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

*Recognizing* the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[173] which includes an overview of the implementation of resolution 66/47,

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Encourages* all relevant initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the

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[172] A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also decision 60/519.

[173] A/67/176.

successful implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[171] and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

3. *Encourages* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;[174]

4. *Endorses* the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[175]

5. *Decides*, pursuant to the schedule of meetings for the period from 2012 to 2018 agreed at the Second Review Conference,[176] to convene, in accordance with the relevant provision of the Programme of Action, a one-week biennial meeting of States, in New York in 2014 and 2016, and a one-week open-ended meeting of governmental experts in 2015, to consider the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action;

6. *Also decides*, in accordance with the decision of the Second Review Conference,[176] to hold the Third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in 2018 for a period of two weeks, preceded by a one-week preparatory committee meeting early in 2018;

7. *Emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

8. *Encourages* States to consider ways to enhance cooperation and assistance and to assess their effectiveness in order to ensure the implementation of the Programme of Action;

9. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective, and in this regard encourages States to make use, as appropriate, of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System;

10. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

11. *Encourages* all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the outcome documents of the Second Review Conference;

12. *Encourages* States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Tracing Instrument, encourages those States in a position to do so to use the reporting template made available by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, and reaffirms the utility of synchronizing such reports with biennial meetings of States and review conferences as a means of increasing the submission rate and improving the utility of reports, as well as contributing substantively to meeting discussions;

13. *Also encourages* States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as another tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of these national reports;

14. *Encourages* States, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society with the capacity to do so to cooperate with and assist other States, upon request, in the preparation of comprehensive reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action;

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[174] See A/62/163 and Corr.1.

[175] A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annexes I and II.

[176] Ibid., annex I, sect. III, paras. 1 and 2.

15. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Tracing Instrument by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

16. *Recognizes* the urgent need to maintain and enhance national controls, in accordance with the Programme of Action, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including their diversion to unauthorized recipients, taking into account, inter alia, their adverse humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences on the affected States;

17. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could be distributed, upon request, to States otherwise unable to participate in meetings on the Programme of Action;

18. *Encourages* interested States and relevant international and regional organizations in a position to do so to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as the International Tracing Instrument, including in preparation for the meetings on the Programme of Action;

19. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

## RESOLUTION 67/59

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[177] by a recorded vote of 174 to 1, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*Abstaining:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic

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[177] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Zambia.

## 67/59. United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the need for all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving a peaceful and secure world free of nuclear weapons, and in this regard confirming the determination of Member States to take united action,

*Noting* that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/45 of 2 December 2011,

*Expressing deep concern* at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law, while convinced that every effort should be made to avoid nuclear war and nuclear terrorism,

*Reaffirming* that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing,

*Reaffirming also* that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, which is, inter alia, essential to international peace and security,

*Reaffirming further* the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[178] as the cornerstone of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and an essential foundation for the pursuit of the Treaty's three pillars, namely, nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy,

*Recalling* the decisions and the resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[179] and the Final Documents of the 2000[180] and 2010[181] Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Welcoming* the successful outcome of the 2010 Review Conference, held from 3 to 28 May 2010, in the year of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, and reaffirming the necessity of fully implementing the action plan adopted at the Review Conference,[182]

*Welcoming* the deliberations and results of the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held from 30 April to 11 May 2012,

*Noting* the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, convened by the Secretary-General on 24 September 2010, and the plenary meeting of the General Assembly to follow up on the high-level meeting, held from 27 to 29 July 2011,

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 5 February 2011 of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,

*Welcoming also* the recent announcements on overall stockpiles of nuclear warheads by France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, as well as the update of the Russian Federation on its nuclear arsenals, which further enhance transparency and increase mutual confidence,

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[178] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[179] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[180] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[181] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[182] Ibid., vol. I, part I.

*Expressing deep concern* regarding the growing dangers posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, inter alia, nuclear weapons, including that caused by proliferation networks,

*Recognizing* the importance of the objective of nuclear security, along with the shared goals of Member States of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, welcoming the Nuclear Security Summit held in Washington, D.C., on 12 and 13 April 2010 and in Seoul on 26 and 27 March 2012, and looking forward to the Nuclear Security Summit to be held in the Netherlands in 2014,

*Recognizing also* the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006 and 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009 urging the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to abandon all its nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes and immediately cease all related activities, expressing concern regarding the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's claimed uranium enrichment programme and light water reactor construction, as well as the satellite launch on 13 April 2012, and declaring that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea cannot have the status of a nuclear-weapon State under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons under any circumstances,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[178] complying with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty;

2. *Also reaffirms* the vital importance of the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and calls upon all States not parties to the Treaty to accede as non-nuclear-weapon States to the Treaty promptly and without any conditions and, pending their accession to the Treaty, to adhere to its terms and take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

3. *Further reaffirms* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons are committed under article VI thereof;

4. *Calls upon* nuclear-weapon States to undertake further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of applying the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the process of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Recognizes* that nuclear disarmament and achieving the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons require openness and cooperation, affirms the importance of enhanced confidence through increased transparency and effective verification, emphasizes the importance of the commitment by the nuclear-weapon States at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to accelerate concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference in a way that promotes international stability, peace and undiminished and increased security, and the call upon the nuclear-weapon States to report their undertakings in 2014 to the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference,[182] and welcomes in this regard the convening in Paris on 30 June and 1 July 2011 and in Washington, D.C., from 27 to 29 June 2012, of the follow-up meetings to the 2010 Review Conference of the five nuclear-weapon States as a transparency and confidence-building measure among them;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing implementation by the Russian Federation and the United States of America of the Treaty on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, and encourages them to continue discussions on follow-on measures in order to achieve deeper reductions in their nuclear arsenals;

8. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[183] at the earliest opportunity, with a view to its early entry into force and universalization, stresses the importance of maintaining existing moratoriums on nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of the Treaty, and reaffirms the importance of the continued development of the Treaty verification regime, which will be a significant contribution to providing assurance of compliance with the Treaty;

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[183] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

9. *Reiterates its call for* the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and its early conclusion, regrets that negotiations have not yet started, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States and States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to declare and maintain moratoriums on the production of fissile material for any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices pending the entry into force of the treaty;

10. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to take measures to further reduce the risk of an accidental or unauthorized launch of nuclear weapons in ways that promote international stability and security, while welcoming the measures already taken by several nuclear-weapon States in this regard;

11. *Also calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to promptly engage with a view to further diminishing the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies;

12. *Recognizes* the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding security assurances from nuclear-weapon States which could strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

13. *Recalls* Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995, noting the unilateral statements by each of the nuclear-weapon States, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to fully respect their existing commitments with regard to security assurances;

14. *Encourages* the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, where appropriate, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and in accordance with the 1999 guidelines of the Disarmament Commission,[184] and recognizes that, by signing and ratifying relevant protocols that contain negative security assurances, nuclear-weapon States would undertake individual legally binding commitments with respect to the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States parties to such treaties;

15. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery and to fully respect and comply with obligations undertaken to forswear nuclear weapons;

16. *Stresses* the importance of the universalization of the comprehensive safeguards agreements of the International Atomic Energy Agency to include States which have not yet adopted and implemented such an agreement, while also strongly reaffirming the follow-on action of the 2010 Review Conference encouraging all States which have not done so to conclude and bring into force as soon as possible the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997, and the full implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004;

17. *Encourages* every effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear and radiological material, and calls upon all States to work cooperatively as an international community to advance nuclear security, while requesting and providing assistance, including in the field of capacity-building, as necessary;

18. *Encourages* all States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[185] in support of achieving a world without nuclear weapons, and to voluntarily share information on efforts they have been undertaking to that end;

19. *Commends and further encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and encourages all States to promote, in cooperation with civil society, disarmament and non-proliferation education which, inter alia, contributes to raising public awareness of the tragic consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and strengthens the momentum of international efforts to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons".

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[184] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

[185] See A/57/124.

## RESOLUTION 67/60

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[186] by a recorded vote of 124 to 44, with 18 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Austria, Belarus, India, Ireland, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Montenegro, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, Sweden, Uzbekistan

### 67/60. Nuclear disarmament

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003, 59/77 of 3 December 2004, 60/70 of 8 December 2005, 61/78 of 6 December 2006, 62/42 of 5 December 2007, 63/46 of 2 December 2008, 64/53 of 2 December 2009, 65/56 of 8 December 2010 and 66/51 of 2 December 2011 on nuclear disarmament,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

*Bearing in mind* that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[187] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[188] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

*Recognizing* that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressing the need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving this goal,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[189] calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

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[186] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Guinea, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

[187] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[188] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[189] Resolution S-10/2.

*Reaffirming* the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[190] that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[191]

*Stressing* the importance of the 13 steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[192]

*Recognizing* the important work done at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[193] and affirming its action plan as an impetus to intensify work aimed at beginning negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention,

*Reiterating* the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

*Reiterating its call for* an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[194]

*Taking note* of the entry into force of the new strategic arms reduction treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America, in order to achieve further deep cuts in their strategic and tactical nuclear weapons, and stressing that such cuts should be irreversible, verifiable and transparent,

*Recalling* the entry into force of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions (the Moscow Treaty) between the United States of America and the Russian Federation[195] as a significant step towards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

*Noting* the positive statements by nuclear-weapon States of their intention to pursue actions in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, while reaffirming the need for urgent concrete actions by nuclear-weapon States to achieve this goal within a specified framework of time, and urging them to take further measures for progress on nuclear disarmament,

*Recognizing* the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[196] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

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[190] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[191] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[192] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[193] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[194] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[195] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2350, No. 42195.

[196] A/51/218, annex.

*Mindful* of paragraph 102 of the Final Document of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement at its Ministerial Meeting, held in Havana from 27 to 30 April 2009,[197]

*Recalling* paragraph 157 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,[198] calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament and to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time, including a nuclear weapons convention,

*Noting* the adoption of the programme of work for the 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,[199] after years of stalemate, while regretting that the Conference has not been able to undertake substantive work on its agenda in 2012,

*Reaffirming* the importance and validity of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating forum on disarmament, and expressing the need to adopt and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work on the basis of its agenda and dealing with, inter alia, four core issues, in accordance with the rules of procedure,[200] and by taking into consideration the security concerns of all States,

*Reaffirming also* the specific mandate conferred upon the Disarmament Commission by the General Assembly, in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[201] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

*Recalling also* the statement on the total elimination of nuclear weapons adopted by the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011, recalled by the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries at their Sixteenth Conference, in which the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries reiterated its call for an international conference to identify ways and means of eliminating nuclear weapons at the earliest possible date,[202]

*Reaffirming* that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

*Seized* of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Recognizes* that the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of these weapons at the earliest possible time;

2. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world, including the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons, on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

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[197] See A/63/858.

[198] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[199] See CD/1864.

[200] CD/8/Rev.9.

[201] Resolution 55/2.

[202] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex V.

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts between the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the nuclear-weapon States, and encourages the nuclear-weapon States in their early signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone;[203]

5. *Recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

6. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

7. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in and the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

8. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of these weapons within a specified framework of time;

9. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

10. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

11. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to the process of nuclear disarmament and to nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

12. *Also underlines* the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[192] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;[204]

13. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the 13 practical steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;

14. *Also calls for* the full implementation of the action plan as set out in the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference, particularly the 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament;[193]

15. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

16. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[205] and the mandate contained therein;

17. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to commence as early as possible its substantive work during its 2013 session, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that takes into consideration all the real and existing priorities in the field of disarmament and arms control, including the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

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[203] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[204] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

[205] CD/1299.

18. *Calls for* the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate and unconditional security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

19. *Also calls for* the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[194] while welcoming the recent ratification of the Treaty by Guatemala, Guinea and Indonesia;

20. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament in 2012, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/51;

21. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament in 2013 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

22. *Calls for* the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

## RESOLUTION 67/61

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97)[206]

### 67/61. Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/43 of 8 December 2003, 59/87 of 3 December 2004, 60/64 of 8 December 2005, 61/81 of 6 December 2006, 62/45 of 5 December 2007, 63/45 of 2 December 2008, 64/43 of 2 December 2009, 65/47 of 8 December 2010 and 66/38 of 2 December 2011 on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context,

*Recalling also* its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict, in which it calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

*Recalling further* the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

*Considering* the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned, and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

*Convinced* that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

*Recognizing* the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

*Welcoming* the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

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[206] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Ecuador, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Uruguay.

*Recognizing* that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socioeconomic conditions of their people,

*Concerned* that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;[207]

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and to be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".

## RESOLUTION 67/62

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[208] by a recorded vote of 185 to 1, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour*: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania,

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[207] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II, sect. III.A.

[208] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Belarus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Italy, Malaysia, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates.

Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* India

*Abstaining:* Bhutan, Russian Federation

### 67/62. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002, 58/39 of 8 December 2003, 59/88 of 3 December 2004, 60/75 of 8 December 2005, 61/82 of 6 December 2006, 62/44 of 5 December 2007, 63/44 of 2 December 2008, 64/42 of 2 December 2009, 65/46 of 8 December 2010 and 66/37 of 2 December 2011,

*Recognizing* the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

*Convinced* that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

*Aware* that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

*Desirous* of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

*Noting with particular interest* the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[209] which is a cornerstone of European security,

*Believing* that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

*Believing also* that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

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[209] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2441, No. 44001.

## RESOLUTION 67/63

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24)[210]

### 67/63. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007, 63/76 of 2 December 2008, 64/58 of 2 December 2009, 65/78 of 8 December 2010 and 66/53 of 2 December 2011 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

*Recalling also* the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[211] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[212] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[213]

*Reaffirming* its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

*Recognizing* that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities and posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and bearing in mind in this regard that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

*Noting* that, in paragraph 178 of the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 30 and 31 August 2012,[214] the Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,

1. *Reiterates* the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to advance disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions in order to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

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[210] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[211] A/67/117.

[212] A/67/112.

[213] A/67/132.

[214] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all support necessary, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

## RESOLUTION 67/64

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24),[215] by a recorded vote of 129 to 49, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Uzbekistan

### 67/64. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Convinced* that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

*Bearing in mind* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[216]

*Convinced* that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

*Conscious* that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* that paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[217] states that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

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[215] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Chile, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

[216] A/51/218, annex.

[217] Resolution S-10/2.

*Reaffirming* that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

*Determined* to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

*Stressing* that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

*Noting with regret* that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2012 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 66/57 of 2 December 2011,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

## RESOLUTION 67/65

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24)[218]

### 67/65. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

*Welcoming* the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007,

*Recalling* the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General[219] and expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including the tenth United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues, held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, on 7 and 8 November 2011; the Pacific regional workshop on small arms and light weapons and the arms trade treaty, held in Brisbane, Australia, from 29 February to 2 March 2012; and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations workshop on illicit small arms and light weapons and unexploded ordnance control, held in Phnom Penh from 27 to 30 March 2012,

*Appreciating* the timely execution by Nepal of its financial commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

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[218] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

[219] A/67/112.

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out in the past year by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and invites all States of the region to continue to support the activities of the Centre, including by continuing to take part in them, where possible, and by proposing items for inclusion in the programme of activities of the Centre, in order to contribute to the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has enabled the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

## RESOLUTION 67/66

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24)[220]

### 67/66. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

*Recalling also* its resolution 66/54 of 2 December 2011, as well as all previous resolutions entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean",

*Recognizing* that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

*Reaffirming* the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, and for the promotion of economic and social development,

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[220] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Peru (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[221] and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided, upon request, by the Regional Centre to several countries in the region, including through capacity-building and technical assistance programmes as well as outreach activities, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives, for the development of plans to reduce and prevent armed violence from an arms control perspective, for promoting and supporting the implementation of relevant agreements and treaties and for capacity-building initiatives aimed at bolstering the efforts of the law enforcement community to combat the illicit trade in firearms,

*Welcoming* the support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of disarmament and non-proliferation instruments,

*Emphasizing* the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate,

*Welcoming* the ongoing support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[222]

*Welcoming also* the assistance provided by the Regional Centre to some States, upon request, in the management and the securing of national weapons stockpiles and in the identification and destruction of surplus, obsolete or seized weapons and ammunition, as declared by competent national authorities,

*Welcoming further* the initiative of the Regional Centre to continue to conduct activities in line with efforts to promote the equitable representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, as encouraged in resolution 65/69 of 8 December 2010,

*Recalling* the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[223] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

*Noting* that security, disarmament and development issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Emphasizing* the importance of maintaining the support provided by the Regional Centre for strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[224] as well as its efforts in promoting peace and disarmament education,

*Bearing in mind* the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

*Bearing in mind also* the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional and subregional levels to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its Member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to continue to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region for the

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[221] A/67/132.

[222] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[223] See A/59/119.

[224] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

implementation of the mandate of the Centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development and for the promotion of, inter alia, nuclear disarmament, the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives, confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency and the reduction and prevention of armed violence at the regional and subregional levels;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support provided by Member States as well as for the financial contributions made by Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof, and encourages them to continue to make and to increase voluntary contributions;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional and subregional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, in the relationship between disarmament and development and in strengthening voluntary confidence-building measures among the countries of the region;

6. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

## RESOLUTION 67/67

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24)[225]

### 67/67. United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,[226]

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998, 55/34 A of 20 November 2000, 57/90 of 22 November 2002, 59/103 of 3 December 2004, 61/95 of 6 December 2006, 63/81 of 2 December 2008 and 65/81 of 8 December 2010,

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[225] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

[226] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General,[227]

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating, as widely as possible, information on arms control and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

3. *Commends with satisfaction* the launch of *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* for 2011, as well as its online edition, by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme continue to inform, educate and generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms control and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and that it focus its efforts:

(*a*) To continue to publish *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, the flagship publication of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in all official languages, as well as its *Occasional Papers, Study Series* and other ad hoc information materials in accordance with the current practice;

(*b*) To continue to update the disarmament website as a part of the United Nations website in as many official languages as feasible;

(*c*) To promote the use of the Programme as a means to provide information related to progress in the implementation of nuclear disarmament measures;

(*d*) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(*e*) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of all support extended to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, and once again invites all Member States to make further contributions to the Fund with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[228] which reviews the implementation of the recommendations made in the 2002 study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;[229]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

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[227] A/67/202.

[228] A/67/138 and Add.1.

[229] A/57/124.

## RESOLUTION 67/68

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24)[230]

### 67/68. United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[231]

*Recalling* its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[232] to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[233] including its decision to continue the programme,

*Noting* that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and a better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the programme has trained a large number of officials from Member States throughout its 34 years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments,

*Recognizing* the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

*Recalling* all the resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

*Believing* that the forms of assistance available under the programme to Member States, in particular to developing countries, will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly[233] and the guidelines approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;[234]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States and organizations that have consistently supported the programme throughout the years, thereby contributing to its success, in particular to the Governments of China, Germany, Japan and Switzerland for continuing extensive and highly educative study visits for the participants in the programme during 2011 and 2012;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies of the Monterey Institute of International Studies for organizing specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

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[230] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[231] A/67/160.

[232] Resolution S-10/2.

[233] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9–13, document A/S-12/32.

[234] A/33/305.

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

## RESOLUTION 67/69

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24)[235]

### 67/69. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Mindful* of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

*Recalling* its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000, 56/25 D of 29 November 2001, 57/91 of 22 November 2002, 58/61 of 8 December 2003, 59/101 of 3 December 2004, 60/86 of 8 December 2005, 61/93 of 6 December 2006, 62/216 of 22 December 2007, 63/80 of 2 December 2008, 64/62 of 2 December 2009 and 66/58 of 2 December 2011,

*Reaffirming* the role of the Regional Centre in promoting disarmament, peace and security at the regional level,

*Welcoming* the continuing and deepening cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular its institutions in the fields of disarmament, peace and security, as well as between the Centre and relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa, and considering the communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its two-hundredth meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 21 August 2009,

*Recalling* the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[236] in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations,

*Recalling also* the call by the Secretary-General for continued financial and in-kind support from Member States,[237] which would enable the Regional Centre to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[238]

2. *Welcomes* the continental dimension of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in response to the evolving needs of African Member States in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

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[235] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Jamaica, Nicaragua, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[236] A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).

[237] A/66/159, para. 58.

[238] A/67/117.

3. *Also welcomes* the undertaking by the Regional Centre to provide capacity-building, technical assistance programmes and advisory services to the African Union Commission and subregional organizations on the control of small arms and light weapons, including on stockpile management and destruction, the negotiations on an arms trade treaty and issues related to weapons of mass destruction, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Regional Centre to continental disarmament, peace and security, in particular its assistance to the African Union Commission in the elaboration of the African Union Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and the ongoing process of seeking an African common position on the proposed arms trade treaty, and to the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in its implementation of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[239]

5. *Notes with appreciation* the tangible achievements of the Regional Centre and the impact of the assistance that it provided to Central African States in their elaboration of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[240] to Central and West African States in the elaboration of their respective common positions on an arms trade treaty, to West Africa on security sector reform initiatives, and to East Africa on programmes to control brokering of small arms and light weapons;

6. *Commends* the Regional Centre for the support and assistance that it provided to African States in the preparation for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, including through the organization of subregional and regional seminars and conferences;

7. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to enable the Regional Centre to carry out its programmes and activities and meet the needs of the African States;

8. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;[236]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide Regional Centre with the support necessary for greater achievements and results;

11. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

## RESOLUTION 67/70

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/410, para. 24)[241]

### 67/70. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 66/55 of 2 December 2011,

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[239] See A/50/426, annex.

[240] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

[241] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Burundi (on behalf of the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa).

*Recalling also* the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Bearing in mind* the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

*Reaffirming* that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

*Recalling* the Sao Tome Declaration on a Central African Common Position on the Arms Trade Treaty, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 16 March 2011 at their thirty-second ministerial meeting, held in Sao Tome from 12 to 16 March 2011,[242]

*Taking note* of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, held in New York from 2 to 27 July 2012, and taking note also of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 27 August to 7 September 2012,

*Convinced* that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

*Welcoming* the declaration on a road map for counter-terrorism and non-proliferation of arms in Central Africa, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 8 December 2011 at their thirty-third ministerial meeting, held in Bangui from 5 to 9 December 2011,[243]

*Bearing in mind* that the implementation of the road map should be compliant with relevant legal and administrative obligations, as set out in Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005 and 1963 (2010) of 20 December 2010, as well as the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[244]

*Considering* the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

*Convinced* that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

*Recalling* the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[245] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[246] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[247]

*Bearing in mind* resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[248]

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

*Welcoming* the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the signing of a framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 3 May 2012,

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[242] See A/66/72-S/2011/225, annex.

[243] A/67/72-S/2012/159, annex, attachment I.

[244] Resolution 60/288.

[245] A/50/474, annex I.

[246] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[247] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[248] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

*Bearing in mind* the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention,

*Expressing concern* about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of armed groups, such as the Lord's Resistance Army, and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, on peace, security and development in Central Africa,

*Considering* the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms limitation programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa to facilitate the early entry into force of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[249] and encourages States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Convention;

4. *Encourages* States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement the declaration on a road map for counter-terrorism and non-proliferation of arms in Central Africa,[243] and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, and the international community to support those measures;

5. *Also encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention, as adopted on 19 November 2010 at their thirty-first ministerial meeting, held in Brazzaville from 15 to 19 November 2010;[250]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

10. *Reminds* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (Libreville Declaration) on 8 May 2009,[251] and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the Trust Fund;

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[249] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

[250] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

[251] See A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex.

11. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

12. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security;

13. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, welcomes the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa since its opening, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

14. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, as well as the fallout from the situation in Libya and the crisis in Mali, and also welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

15. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

16. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

## RESOLUTION 67/71

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/411, para. 9)[252]

### 67/71. Report of the Disarmament Commission

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Disarmament Commission,[253]

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007, 63/83 of 2 December 2008, 64/65 of 2 December 2009, 65/86 of 8 December 2010 and 66/60 of 2 December 2011,

*Considering* the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[253]

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[252] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Peru (on behalf of the members of the Bureau of the Disarmament Commission).

[253] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/67/42).

2. *Reaffirms* the validity of its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Disarmament Commission;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 61/98, in which it adopted additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Disarmament Commission;

4. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

5. *Also reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[254] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[255]

7. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2013:

(*a*) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(*b*) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;

8. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2013, namely from 1 to 19 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[256] together with all the official records of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

## RESOLUTION 67/72

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/411, para. 9)[257]

### 67/72. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[258]

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[254] Resolution S-10/2.

[255] A/CN.10/137.

[256] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/67/27).

[257] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Germany.

[258] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/67/27).

*Convinced* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

*Recognizing* the addresses and messages, respectively, of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, as expressions of support and of concern for the endeavours of the Conference, and as calls for the Conference to immediately commence negotiations to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

*Recognizing also* the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations,

*Noting* the follow-up discussions to the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral negotiations, held on 24 September 2010 at the initiative of the Secretary-General,

*Noting with renewed concern* that, despite the efforts by States members and successive Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament in the 2012 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, including the revised draft decision of 14 March 2012 submitted for adoption, the Conference on Disarmament did not succeed in commencing its substantive work, including negotiations, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/59 of 2 December 2011, or in agreeing on a programme of work,

*Recalling*, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

*Welcoming* the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament without further delay, on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

*Appreciating* the continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as the six successive Presidents of the Conference at its 2012 session,

*Noting with appreciation* the significant contributions made during the 2012 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, and in addition, according to a schedule of activities developed under the responsibility of the Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament, on the revitalization of the Conference, as well as the discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

*Welcoming* the continued engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament at its 2012 session according to decisions taken by the Conference,

*Stressing* the urgent need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2013 session,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament during its 2012 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of well over a decade by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2013 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009, as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to request the current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, in its 2013 session;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

8. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

## RESOLUTION 67/73

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/412, para. 7),[259] by a recorded vote of 174 to 6, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, India, Panama

### 67/73. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* its relevant resolutions,

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(56)/RES/15, adopted on 20 September 2012,

*Cognizant* that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

*Mindful* of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

*Recalling* the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear

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[259] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States).

Weapons on 11 May 1995[260] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty[261] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[262] the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

*Recalling* the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference on 11 May 1995,[260] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

*Noting with satisfaction* that, in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[263] the Conference emphasized the importance of a process leading to full implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and decided, inter alia, that the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution, in consultation with the States of the region, would convene a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region and with the full support and engagement of the nuclear-weapon States,

*Recalling* that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become a party to the Treaty,

*Concerned* about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

*Stressing* the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

*Emphasizing* the need for all parties directly concerned to seriously consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

*Noting* that 183 States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[264] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[265]

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[260] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[261] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[262] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I-IV)).

[263] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I-III)).

[264] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[265] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, sect. IV.

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[261] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

## RESOLUTION 67/74

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/413, para. 8)[266]

### 67/74. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/62 of 2 December 2011,

*Recalling with satisfaction* the adoption and the entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[267] and its amended article 1,[268] the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[267] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[267] and its amended version,[269] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[267] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[270] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[271]

*Noting* the results of the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, held in Geneva from 14 to 25 November 2011,

*Welcoming* the results of the Thirteenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held in Geneva on 11 November 2011,

*Welcoming also* the results of the Fifth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held in Geneva on 9 and 10 November 2011,

*Recalling* the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which

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[266] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Sweden.

[267] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[268] Ibid., vol. 2260, No. 22495.

[269] Ibid., vol. 2048, No. 22495.

[270] Ibid., vol. 2024, No. 22495.

[271] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[267] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);[271]

4. *Welcomes* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Acknowledges* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, the Chair of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, the President of the Fifth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V and the President of the Thirteenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Welcomes* the following decisions by the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention:

(*a*) The adoption of an accelerated plan of action to promote universality of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

(*b*) The adoption of actions to enhance the implementation of the compliance mechanism for the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

(*c*) The continuation of the Sponsorship Programme within the framework of the Convention; and encourage States to contribute to the Sponsorship Programme;

7. *Recalls* the decision by the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to continue the Sponsorship Programme within the framework of the Convention, and, with recognition of the value and importance of the Programme, encourages States to contribute to it;

8. *Notes* that the issue of the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions was examined extensively by the Fourth Review Conference in November 2011, on the basis of the mandate agreed upon at the Meeting of High Contracting Parties to the Convention in November 2010;

9. *Also notes* that the implementation of international humanitarian law with regard to mines other than anti-personnel mines was discussed further at an open-ended Meeting of Experts in April 2012, on the basis of a decision by the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention;

10. *Welcomes* the commitment by States parties to continue to contribute to the further development of international humanitarian law and in this context to keep under review both the development of new weapons and uses of weapons, which may have indiscriminate effects or cause unnecessary suffering;

11. *Also welcomes* the commitment of States parties to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V) to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation;

12. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

13. *Acknowledges* the work of the Implementation Support Unit within the Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, which was established following a decision by the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the assistance necessary and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for annual conferences and expert meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention and of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, as well as for any continuation of the work after the meetings;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1 and the Protocols;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

## RESOLUTION 67/75

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/414, para. 7)[272]

### 67/75. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 66/63 of 2 December 2011,

*Reaffirming* the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

*Welcoming* the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular through the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

*Bearing in mind* all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

*Recalling*, in this regard, the adoption on 13 July 2008 of the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, which launched a reinforced partnership, named the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean", and the common political will to revive efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity,

*Welcoming* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[273] as a contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally,

*Recognizing* the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

*Recognizing also* the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, as well as their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

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[272] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[273] See A/50/426, annex

*Recognizing further* that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[274]

*Noting* the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

*Expressing concern* at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[275]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area, will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the conditions necessary for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the conditions necessary for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[276]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

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[274] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[275] A/67/134 and Add.1.

[276] See resolution 46/36 L.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

## RESOLUTION 67/76

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/415, para. 7),[277] by a recorded vote of 184 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*Abstaining:* India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic

### 67/76. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

*The General Assembly,*

*Reiterating* that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

*Stressing* that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and that, after more than 15 years, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before,

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[277] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

*Encouraged* by the signing of the Treaty by 183 States, including 41 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by 157 States, including 36 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are 3 nuclear-weapon States,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/64 of 2 December 2011,

*Welcoming* the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[278] which, inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

*Recalling* the Final Declaration adopted by the seventh Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 23 September 2011, convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and noting the improved prospects for ratification in several Annex 2 countries,

*Welcoming* the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the ministerial meeting held in New York on 27 September 2012,[279]

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[280]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the signatory States to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006 and 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009, emphasizes the importance of their implementation, and reaffirms its firm support for the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. *Welcomes*, since its previous resolution on the subject, the ratification of the Treaty by Indonesia, a State whose ratification was needed for the Treaty to enter into force, and by Guatemala as significant steps towards the early entry into force of the Treaty, and also welcomes the signature by Niue of the Treaty;

9. *Also welcomes* the recent expressions from among the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

10. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

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[278] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[279] A/67/515, annex.

[280] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, to prepare a report on the efforts of States that have ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so request it, and to submit such a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

## RESOLUTION 67/77

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/416, para. 8)[281]

### 67/77. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

*Noting with satisfaction* that there are 165 States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[282] including all the permanent members of the Security Council,

*Reaffirming* its call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calling upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at the earliest possible date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention,

*Bearing in mind* its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the review conferences of the parties to the Convention, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, later amended by the Final Declaration of the Seventh Review Conference, and to provide such information and data in conformity with the standardized procedure to the Implementation Support Unit within the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

*Welcoming* the reaffirmation made in the Final Declarations of the Fourth, Sixth and Seventh Review Conferences that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

*Recognizing* the importance of ongoing efforts by States parties to enhance international cooperation, assistance and the fullest possible exchange in biological sciences and technology for peaceful purposes, recognizing also that there still remain challenges and obstacles to be overcome in order to enhance international cooperation, and recognizing further the value of building capacity through international cooperation, in line with the Final Document of the Seventh Review Conference,

*Reaffirming* the importance of national measures, in accordance with constitutional processes, in strengthening the implementation of the Convention by States parties, in line with the Final Document of the Seventh Review Conference,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention,

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[281] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Hungary.

[282] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

*Noting* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference to retain the previous structures from the 2003–2010 intersessional process, consisting of annual meetings of States parties preceded by annual meetings of experts, and to continue to allocate five days to each meeting of States parties and each meeting of experts during the 2012–2015 intersessional process,

*Recalling* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference that the Eighth Review Conference shall be held in Geneva not later than 2016,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the successful outcome of and the decisions on all provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction reached at the Seventh Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate and actively engage in their implementation;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference that the standing agenda items entitled "Cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under Article X", "Review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention" and "Strengthening national implementation" shall be addressed at both the meeting of experts and the meeting of States parties, every year from 2012 to 2015;

3. *Also notes with appreciation* that the Seventh Review Conference decided that the questions of (*a*) how to enable fuller participation in the confidence-building measures, and (*b*) how to strengthen implementation of article VII, including consideration of detailed procedures and mechanisms for the provision of assistance and cooperation by States parties, shall be discussed in 2012 and 2013 and 2014 and 2015, respectively, during the 2012–2015 intersessional process;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the restructured meeting of experts, held in Geneva from 16 to 20 July 2012, successfully addressed topics under the three standing agenda items and the biennial item on the agenda;

5. *Appreciates* the information and data on confidence-building measures provided to date, notes with satisfaction the adoption of the revised reporting forms for confidence-building measures agreed upon at the Seventh Review Conference, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed upon at the Third Review Conference;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference on the establishment of a database to facilitate requests for and offers of exchange of assistance and cooperation, and urges States parties to submit to the Implementation Support Unit, on a voluntary basis, requests and offers of cooperation and assistance, including in terms of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information regarding the use of biological and toxin agents for peaceful purposes;

7. *Encourages* States parties to provide, at least biannually, appropriate information on their implementation of article X of the Convention and to collaborate to offer assistance or training, upon request in support of the legislative and other implementation measures of States parties needed to ensure their compliance with the Convention;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference on the establishment of a sponsorship programme in order to support and increase the participation of developing States parties in the meetings of the intersessional programme, and calls upon States parties in a position to do so to offer voluntary contributions for the programme;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Implementation Support Unit during the 2007–2010 intersessional process and the Seventh Review Conference, and welcomes the decision of the Seventh Review Conference to renew its mandate and request the Unit to perform, in addition to the tasks mandated by the Sixth Review Conference, two tasks for the period from 2012 to 2016, in order to support, as appropriate, the implementation by the States parties of the decisions and recommendations of the Seventh Review Conference;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention, to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the review conferences and to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the meetings of experts and the meetings of States parties during the 2012–2015 intersessional process;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

## RESOLUTION 67/234

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/409, para. 97),[283] by a recorded vote of 133 to none, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen

### 67/234. The arms trade treaty

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming its respect for and commitment to international law,

*Recalling* its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 56/24 V of 24 December 2001, 60/69 and 60/82 of 8 December 2005, 61/89 of 6 December 2006, 63/240 of 24 December 2008 and 64/48 of 2 December 2009, and its decision 66/518 of 2 December 2011,

*Expressing disappointment* that the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, convened from 2 to 27 July 2012, was unable to conclude its work to elaborate a legally binding instrument on the highest possible common international standards for the international transfer of conventional arms,

*Noting* that the draft text of the Arms Trade Treaty submitted by the President of the Conference on 26 July 2012 in conference room paper A/CONF.217/CRP.1 reflects progress in the negotiations, while being mindful of requests by some States for further time to consider that document,

*Determined* to build on the progress made to date towards the adoption of a strong, balanced and effective Arms Trade Treaty,

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[283] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Zambia.

1. *Notes* the report of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty as contained in document A/CONF.217/4;

2. *Decides* to convene in New York, from 18 to 28 March 2013, the Final United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, to be governed by the rules of procedure adopted on 3 July 2012 and contained in document A/CONF.217/L.1, in order to finalize the elaboration of the Arms Trade Treaty, in an open and transparent manner, utilizing the modalities, applied mutatis mutandis, under which the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty operated;

3. *Also decides* that the draft text of the Arms Trade Treaty submitted by the President of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty on 26 July 2012 in conference room paper A/CONF.217/CRP.1 shall be the basis for future work on the Arms Trade Treaty, without prejudice to the right of delegations to put forward additional proposals on that text;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake consultations for the nomination of the President-designate of the Final United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty;

5. *Requests* the President-designate to undertake prior to the Conference in 2013 consultations on the basis of the draft text of the Arms Trade Treaty submitted by the President of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty in conference room paper A/CONF.217/CRP.1;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the Final United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty all necessary assistance, including the provision of essential background information and relevant documents, bearing in mind those made available to the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter during its sixty-seventh session, and in doing so calls upon the President of the Final United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty to report on the outcome of the Conference to the General Assembly at a meeting to be held as soon as possible after 28 March 2013;

8. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session an item entitled "The Arms Trade Treaty".

# III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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## RESOLUTION 67/111

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/420, para. 8)[1]

### 67/111. University for Peace

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 64/83 of 10 December 2009, in which it indicated that, in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979, it had approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for higher education, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system, as well as all preceding resolutions on this item,

*Recalling also* that, in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980, the General Assembly approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, contained in the annex to that resolution,

*Noting with appreciation* the vigorous actions taken by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the encouragement and support of the Government of Costa Rica, to revitalize the University,

*Recognizing* the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period from 2010 to 2012 with the valuable assistance and contributions of Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations, in particular the progress made in the further development and implementation of the academic programme and in expanding its coverage in various regions of the world,

*Noting with appreciation* that the University has started a number of innovative new master's degree programmes in areas related to peace studies, security and the environment, in addition to regular courses in Spanish and study-abroad programmes, and that it has announced the launching of a two-track doctoral programme in peace and conflict studies,

*Noting* that the University places special emphasis on the areas of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and the peaceful settlement of disputes and that it has launched programmes in the areas of democratic consensus-building and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful settlement of conflicts,

*Noting with satisfaction* the donation to the University of a substantial additional property in Costa Rica, which will serve as an alternative campus, with housing facilities for visiting professors, a large covered auditorium space and additional classroom areas,

*Noting with appreciation* the support provided to the University by the host country, Costa Rica,

*Considering* the importance of promoting education for peace that fosters respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among people, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among people irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture, in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 64/83, outlining the extraordinary progress made by the University for Peace in introducing and implementing innovative programmes on critical subjects related to peace and security;[2]

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Ireland, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Togo, Ukraine and Uruguay.

[2] A/67/272.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the important work of the University and its potential role in developing new concepts and approaches to security through education, training and research in order to respond effectively to emerging threats to peace, to consider ways to further strengthen cooperation between the United Nations system and the University;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to expand the scope for using the services of the University as part of his conflict-resolution and peacebuilding efforts through the training of staff, especially those concerned with peacekeeping and peacebuilding, in order to strengthen their capacities in this area, and in the promotion of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[3]

4. *Invites* the University to further strengthen and broaden the outreach of its programmes and activities for cooperation with and capacity-building for Member States in the areas of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding;

5. *Invites* Member States that have not already done so to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,[4] thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution established pursuant to a General Assembly resolution and devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Encourages* Member States, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, interested individuals and philanthropists to contribute to the programmes and core budget of the University to enable it to continue to perform its valuable work worldwide;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "University for Peace", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at that session a report on the work of the University.

## RESOLUTION 67/112

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/421, para. 8)[5]

### 67/112. Effects of atomic radiation

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

*Concerned* about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

*Conscious* of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment, and conscious also of the increased volume, complexity and diversity of that information,

*Acknowledging* the concerns about the radiological consequences of an accident which were raised by the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan,

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[3] Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1223, No. 19735.

[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

*Reaffirming* the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work, and welcoming the increased commitment of States members of the Scientific Committee,

*Emphasizing* the vital need for sufficient, assured and predictable funding, as well as efficient management, of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to arrange the annual sessions and coordinate the development of documents based on scientific reviews of the sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment,

*Recognizing* the increasing importance of the scientific work of the Scientific Committee and the need to carry out unforeseen additional work in cases such as the nuclear accident in Japan,

*Recognizing also* the importance of voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to support the work of the Scientific Committee,

*Considering* that the high quality of the work of the Scientific Committee needs to be maintained in the future,

*Recognizing* the importance of disseminating results from the work of the Scientific Committee and widely publicizing scientific knowledge about atomic radiation, and recalling, in that context, principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[6]

*Welcoming* Belarus, Finland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Ukraine as members of the Scientific Committee and their attendance at the fifty-ninth session of the Scientific Committee in May 2012,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Scientific Committee, and takes note of the report on its fifty-ninth session;[7]

4. *Welcomes with appreciation* the scientific report on attributing health effects to radiation exposure and inferring risks[8] requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/100 of 17 December 2007 and the report on uncertainties in risk estimates for cancer due to exposure to ionizing radiation;[9]

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

6. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for conducting its programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, in particular its intention to complete at its next session an assessment of the levels of exposure and radiation risks attributable to the accident following the great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami and a report on the effects of radiation exposure on children, and its decision to initiate its next Global Survey of Medical Radiation Usage and Exposures in close cooperation with other relevant organizations, encourages the Scientific Committee to submit at its earliest convenience the other related reports, including on assessments of levels of ionizing radiation exposure from electrical energy production, and requests the Scientific Committee to submit plans for its ongoing and future programme of work to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

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[6] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/67/46).

[8] Ibid., chap. III, sect. 1.

[9] Ibid., sect. 2.

7. *Calls upon* the Secretariat to facilitate the timely publication of the reports of the Scientific Committee, inter alia, by continuing to streamline internal procedures as necessary, and to strive to publish the reports within the same calendar year as their approval;

8. *Re-emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States;

9. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate such consultations;

10. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the levels and effects of ionizing radiation, and invites the Scientific Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

11. *Also welcomes* the strategy of the Scientific Committee to improve data collection, encourages in this regard Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly, and further encourages the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations to establish and coordinate with the Secretariat the arrangements for periodic collection and exchange of data on radiation exposures of workers, the general public and, in particular, medical patients;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue and strengthen, as appropriate, support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

13. *Urges* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to strengthen the funding of the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 65/96 of 10 December 2010;

14. *Encourages* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and also to make contributions in kind in order to support the work of the Scientific Committee.

## RESOLUTION 67/113

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/422, para. 15)[10]

### 67/113. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011 and 66/71 of 9 December 2011,

*Recognizing* the extraordinary achievements made over the past fifty years in human space flight and space exploration for peaceful purposes, noting the unique platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities represented by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and recalling in that regard the Declaration on the Fiftieth Anniversary of Human Space Flight and the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[11]

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[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Japan (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[11] Resolution 66/71, annex.

*Deeply convinced* of the common interest of mankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all mankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

*Seriously concerned* about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[12]

*Recognizing* that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Recognizing also* that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

*Noting* the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contributes to international cooperation, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in this field,

*Convinced* of the need to promote the use of space technology towards implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[13]

*Seriously concerned* about the devastating impact of disasters,[14]

*Desirous* of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

*Deeply convinced* that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as telehealth, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection and other Earth observation applications contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

*Welcoming*, in that regard, the fact that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, recognized the important role that space science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,[15]

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-fifth session,[16]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-fifth session;[16]

2. *Agrees* that the Committee, at its fifty-sixth session, should consider the substantive items recommended at its fifty-fifth session,[17] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

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[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[13] Resolution 55/2.

[14] The term "disasters" refers to natural or technological disasters.

[15] Resolution 66/288, annex, para. 274.

[16] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/67/20).

[17] Ibid., para. 345.

3. *Notes* that, at its fifty-first session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,[18] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/71;

4. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-second session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[19] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

5. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[20] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their national law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation;

6. *Notes* that, at its forty-ninth session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,[21] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/71;

7. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fiftieth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[22] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

8. *Notes with appreciation* that some States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[23] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217;

9. *Invites* other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

10. *Considers* that it is essential that States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

11. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

12. *Endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2013, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert on Space Applications and endorsed by the Committee;[24]

13. *Urges* all Member States to continue to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in order to enhance the capacity of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat to provide technical and legal advisory services in its priority thematic areas;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made within the framework of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and encourages

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[18] Ibid., chap. II.D; and A/AC.105/1003.

[19] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/67/20), paras. 254–258.

[20] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

[21] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/67/20), chap. II.C; and A/AC.105/1001.

[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/67/20), paras. 190–195.

[23] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 117 and 118, and annex.

[24] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/67/20), para. 89; and A/AC.105/1011, sects. II and III, and annex III.

Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide the programme with the necessary additional resources to ensure that greater support may be provided to Member States by UN-SPIDER and its regional support offices;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and also notes with appreciation that the International Committee held its seventh meeting in Beijing from 5 to 9 November 2012;

16. *Also notes with appreciation* that the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, as well as the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, located in India, and the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, with campuses located in Brazil and Mexico, affiliated to the United Nations, have continued their education programmes in 2012, and agrees that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on their activities;

17. *Welcomes* in that regard the establishment, in 2012, of the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Western Asia, affiliated to the United Nations, and located in Jordan;

18. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[13] and to that end requests relevant regional organizations to offer the assistance necessary so that countries can carry out the recommendations of regional conferences;

19. *Recognizes*, in that regard, the important role played by conferences and other mechanisms in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States, such as the African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum, the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization and the Space Conference of the Americas;

20. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, and agrees that during its consideration of the matter the Committee could continue to consider ways to promote regional and interregional cooperation and the role that space technology could play in the implementation of recommendations of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

21. *Reiterates* that space science and technology and their applications make important contributions to economic, social and cultural development and welfare, as indicated in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted on 30 July 1999 by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III),[25] and General Assembly resolution 59/2, and recalls that a number of the recommendations set out in the plan of action of the Committee on the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference[26] have been implemented and that satisfactory progress is being made in implementing the outstanding recommendations through national and regional activities;

22. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including mitigation of the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

23. *Notes with appreciation* that the Group on Earth Observations made a contribution to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development by addressing issues related to the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development;

24. *Reiterates* that the benefits of space technology and its applications should continue to be brought to the attention, in particular, of the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural

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[25] *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[26] See A/59/174, sect. VI.B.

development and related fields and that the use of space technology should be promoted in efforts towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and implementing the Millennium Declaration;

25. *Welcomes* the increased efforts to strengthen further the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, and urges entities of the United Nations system, particularly those participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting, to continue to examine, in cooperation with the Committee, how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the Millennium Declaration on the development agenda, particularly in the areas relating to, inter alia, food security and increasing opportunities for education;

26. *Requests* the entities of the United Nations system, other international organizations and the Secretary-General to continue and, where appropriate, to enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with reports on the issues dealt with in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies;

27. *Notes* that, in accordance with the agreement reached by the Committee at its forty-sixth session on the measures relating to the future composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,[27] on the basis of the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,[28] the African States, the Eastern European States and the Western European and other States nominated their candidates for the offices of Chair of the Committee, Chair of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Chair of the Legal Subcommittee, respectively, for the period 2014–2015;[29]

28. *Urges* the Asia-Pacific States and the Latin American and Caribbean States to nominate their candidates for the offices of Second Vice-Chair/Rapporteur of the Committee and First Vice-Chair of the Committee, respectively, for the period 2014–2015 before the next session of the Committee;

29. *Agrees* that, upon the nomination of the candidates of the Asia-Pacific States and the Latin American and Caribbean States, the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, at their respective sessions in 2014, should elect their officers nominated for the period 2014–2015;

30. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the Ibero-American Institute of Aeronautic and Space Law and Commercial Aviation[30] and the Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics;[31]

31. *Encourages* the regional groups to promote participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies by the States members of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups.

## RESOLUTION 67/114

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/423, para. 16),[32] by a recorded vote of 170 to 1, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada,

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[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/58/20), annex II, paras. 4–9.

[28] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/52/20), annex I; and ibid., *Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/58/20), annex II, appendix III.

[29] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/67/20), paras. 328, 330 and 331.

[30] Ibid., paras. 333 and 334.

[31] Ibid., paras. 335 and 336.

[32] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Canada, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, United States of America

### 67/114. Assistance to Palestine refugees

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution 66/72 of 9 December 2011,

*Recalling also* its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

*Recalling further* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Aware* of the fact that, for more than six decades, the Palestine refugees have suffered from the loss of their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

*Affirming* the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

*Acknowledging* the essential role that the Agency has played for over 60 years since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of education, health, relief and social services and ongoing work in the areas of camp infrastructure, microfinance, protection and emergency assistance,

*Taking note* of the report of the Commissioner-General of the Agency covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011,[33]

*Aware* of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

*Expressing grave concern* at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and socioeconomic living conditions,

*Expressing grave concern in particular* at the critical humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and urgent reconstruction efforts,

*Noting* the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements on 13 September 1993[34] by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization and the subsequent implementation agreements,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern and the Palestine refugees continue to require assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III),

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[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/67/13).

[34] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

and reiterates its request to the Conciliation Commission to continue exerting efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly on the efforts being exerted in this regard as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2013;

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services for the well-being and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to strengthen their efforts to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including with regard to increased expenditures arising from the serious socioeconomic and humanitarian situation and instability in the region, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and those needs mentioned in recent emergency appeals and in the consolidated humanitarian response plan for the Syrian Arab Republic;

5. *Commends* the Agency for its provision of vital assistance to the Palestine refugees and its role as a stabilizing factor in the region and the tireless efforts of the staff of the Agency in carrying out its mandate.

## RESOLUTION 67/115

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/423, para. 16),[35] by a recorded vote of 170 to 6, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Honduras, Panama, Papua New Guinea

### 67/115. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 66/73 of 9 December 2011,[36]

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[35] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[36] A/67/331.

*Taking note also* of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011,[37]

*Concerned* about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

*Taking note* of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[38] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Stresses* the necessity for an accelerated return of displaced persons, and calls for compliance with the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[38] on the return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meantime, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its sixty-eighth session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/116

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/423, para. 16),[39] by a recorded vote of 172 to 6, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon

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[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/67/13).

[38] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[39] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

## 67/116. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including its resolution 66/74 of 9 December 2011,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Having considered* the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011,[40]

*Taking note* of the letter dated 19 June 2012 from the Chair of the Advisory Commission of the Agency to the Commissioner-General,[41]

*Deeply concerned* about the extremely critical financial situation of the Agency, caused in part by the structural underfunding of the Agency, as well as its rising expenditures resulting from the deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions and the rising instability in the region and their significant negative impact on the provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including its emergency-related and development programmes in all fields of operation,

*Recalling* Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[42]

*Recalling also* the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[43]

*Affirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[44] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

*Aware* of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

*Gravely concerned* about the extremely difficult socioeconomic conditions being faced by the Palestine refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the continuing prolonged Israeli closures, the construction of settlements and the wall, and the severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, which have deepened unemployment and poverty rates among the refugees with potentially lasting, long-term negative effects,

*Gravely concerned also* about the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women; widespread destruction and damage to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities; and internal displacement of civilians, including refugees,

*Commending* the extraordinary efforts by the Agency to provide emergency relief, medical, food, shelter and other humanitarian assistance to needy and displaced families in the Gaza Strip,

*Recalling*, in this regard, its resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009 and Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009,

*Expressing regret* over the continued restrictions that impede the Agency's efforts to repair and rebuild thousands of damaged or destroyed refugee shelters, and calling upon Israel to ensure the unimpeded import of essential construction materials into the Gaza Strip, while taking note of recent developments regarding the situation of access there,

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[40] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/67/13).

[41] Ibid., pp. vi–viii.

[42] Resolution 22 A (I).

[43] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[44] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

*Expressing concern* about the severe classroom shortage in the Gaza Strip and the consequent negative impact on the right to education of refugee children as a result of the constraints on the ability of the Agency to construct new schools due to Israel's ongoing restrictions impeding the entry of necessary construction materials into the Gaza Strip,

*Stressing* the urgent need for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, including by ensuring the timely facilitation of construction projects as well as the swift entry of construction materials needed for projects managed by the Agency, and the need for the accelerated implementation of other urgent United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities,

*Urging* the timely disbursement of remaining pledges made at the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, to accelerate the reconstruction process,

*Noting with appreciation* the completion of the first phase and near-completion of the second phase of the project to rebuild the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp, commending the Government of Lebanon, donors, the Agency and other concerned parties for the important progress made and for the continuing efforts to assist affected and displaced refugees, and emphasizing the need for additional funding to complete the reconstruction of the camp and end the displacement of its 27,000 residents without delay,

*Expressing deep concern* at the situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic, and regretting profoundly the loss of life among refugees and the staff members of the Agency,

*Emphasizing* the need for increased assistance to Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as those who have fled to neighbouring countries,

*Aware* of the valuable work done by the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

*Deploring* the endangerment of the safety of the Agency's staff and the damage and destruction caused to the facilities and properties of the Agency during the period covered by the report of the Commissioner-General,

*Deploring also*, in particular, the extensive damage and destruction of Agency facilities in the Gaza Strip caused during the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009, including schools where civilians were sheltered and the Agency's main compound and warehouse, as reported in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[45] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[46]

*Deploring further*, in this regard, the breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, the failure to accord the property and assets of the Organization immunity from any form of interference and the failure to protect United Nations personnel, premises and property,

*Deploring* the killing and injury of Agency staff members by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since September 2000,

*Deploring also* the killing and wounding of refugee children in the Agency schools by the Israeli occupying forces during the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009,

*Deeply concerned* about the continuing imposition of restrictions on the freedom of movement and access of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, and the injury, harassment and intimidation of the Agency's staff, which undermine and obstruct the work of the Agency, including its ability to provide essential basic and emergency services,

*Aware* of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

*Taking note* of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[47]

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[45] A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[46] A/HRC/12/48.

[47] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

1. *Reaffirms* that the effective functioning of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East remains essential in all fields of operation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the Agency, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, particularly in the light of the difficult conditions, instability and crises faced during the past year;

3. *Expresses special commendation* to the Agency for the essential role that it has played for over 60 years since its establishment in providing vital services for the well-being, human development and protection of the Palestine refugees and the amelioration of their plight;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the important support and cooperation provided by the host Governments to the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

5. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the Agency[48] and the efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work;

7. *Commends* the Agency's six-year Medium-Term Strategy, which commenced in January 2010, and the continuing efforts of the Commissioner-General to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency, as reflected in the Agency's programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;[49]

8. *Also commends* the Agency for sustaining its reform efforts, despite difficult operational circumstances, and urges it to continue to apply maximum efficiency procedures to reduce operational and administrative costs and to maximize the use of resources;

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the management capacity of the Agency,[50] and further urges all Member States to carefully consider its conclusions and recommendations, including the continued provision of financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations;

10. *Endorses* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are internally displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of recent crises in the Agency's fields of operation;

11. *Encourages* the Agency to provide increased assistance, in accordance with its mandate, to affected Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as those who have fled to neighbouring countries, as detailed in the consolidated humanitarian response plan for the Syrian Arab Republic, and calls upon donors to urgently support the Agency in this regard;

12. *Welcomes* the progress made thus far by the Agency in rebuilding the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon, and calls for the expeditious completion of its reconstruction, for the continued provision of relief assistance to those displaced following its destruction in 2007 and for the alleviation of their ongoing suffering through the timely fulfilment of pledges made at the International Donor Conference for the Recovery and Reconstruction of the Nahr el-Bared Palestine Refugee Camp and Conflict-affected Areas of Northern Lebanon, held in Vienna on 23 June 2008;

13. *Encourages* the Agency, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations entities, to continue making progress in addressing the needs and rights of children, women and persons with disabilities in its

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[48] A/67/382.

[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13A* (A/66/13/Add.1).

[50] A/65/705.

operations in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[51] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[52] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[53] respectively;

14. *Commends*, in this regard, the Agency's "Summer Games" initiative providing recreational, cultural and educational activities for children in the Gaza Strip and, recognizing its positive contribution, calls for full support of the initiative, expressing regret that financial constraints led to the cancellation of the Games in 2012;

15. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;[44]

16. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[42] in order to ensure the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of its facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

17. *Urges* the Government of Israel to expeditiously reimburse the Agency for all transit charges incurred and other financial losses sustained as a result of delays and restrictions on movement and access imposed by Israel;

18. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement and access of the staff, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease the levying of taxes, extra fees and charges, which affect the Agency's operations detrimentally;

19. *Reiterates its call upon* Israel to fully lift the restrictions impeding or delaying the import of necessary construction materials and supplies for the reconstruction and repair of thousands of damaged or destroyed refugee shelters, and for the implementation of suspended civilian infrastructure projects in refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, while noting the commencement of several projects in this regard;

20. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the completion of the Palestine Refugee Records Project and its contribution to the modernization of the Agency's archives;

22. *Also notes with appreciation* the success of the Agency's microfinance programme, and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute to the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation;

23. *Reiterates its appeals* to all States, the specialized agencies and non governmental organizations to continue and to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships for higher education to Palestine refugees in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the Agency and to contribute to the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

24. *Urges* all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to urgently increase their contributions to the Agency in order to address the persistent, growing and serious financial constraints and underfunding, especially with respect to the Agency's regular budget deficit, noting that financial shortfalls have been exacerbated by the current humanitarian situation and instability on the ground that have resulted in rising expenditures, in particular with regard to emergency services, and to support the Agency's valuable and necessary work in assisting the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation.

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[51] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[52] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[53] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

## RESOLUTION 67/117

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/423, para. 16),[54] by a recorded vote of 173 to 6, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Papua New Guinea

### 67/117. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution 66/75 of 9 December 2011,[55] as well as that of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012,[56]

*Recalling* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[57] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

*Recalling in particular* its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

*Noting* the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[58] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and a file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

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[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[55] A/67/334.

[56] A/67/343, annex.

[57] Resolution 217 A (III).

[58] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

*Expressing its appreciation* for the preservation and modernization of the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission, and stressing the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III),

*Recalling* that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[59] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/118

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/424, para. 18),[60] by a recorded vote of 98 to 8, with 72 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Panama, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Ukraine, Uruguay, Vanuatu

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[59] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[60] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

## 67/118. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Guided also* by international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[61] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[62] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[63]

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and 66/76 of 9 December 2011, and the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, including resolution S-12/1, adopted by the Council at its twelfth special session on 16 October 2009,[64]

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Taking into account* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[65] and recalling in this regard its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

*Recalling* its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

*Convinced* that occupation itself represents a gross and grave violation of human rights,

*Gravely concerned* about the continuing detrimental impact of ongoing unlawful Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in the death and injury of civilians, the widespread destruction of property and vital infrastructure, ongoing settlement activities and construction of the wall, the internal displacement of civilians, the imposition of collective punishment measures, particularly against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip, where continuing severe restrictions on movement amount to a blockade, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians,

*Gravely concerned also* about acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands,

*Gravely concerned in particular* by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[66] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[67] and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties to the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[68] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[69]

*Recalling* the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[70] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

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[61] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[62] Resolution 217 A (III).

[63] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[64] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/64/53/Add.1), chap. I.

[65] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[66] A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[67] A/HRC/12/48.

[68] A/67/550.

[69] A/67/332, A/67/338, A/67/372, A/67/375 and A/67/511.

[70] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

*Stressing* the urgency of bringing a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and thus an end to the violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, and of allowing for the realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination and their independent State,

*Taking note* of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[71]

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Reiterates its demand* that Israel, the occupying Power, cooperate, in accordance with its obligations as a State Member of the United Nations, with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the report of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;[68]

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the Gaza Strip, as a result of unlawful Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns and calls for the immediate cessation of all illegal Israeli settlement activities and the construction of the wall, as well as the excessive and indiscriminate use of force against the civilian population, the destruction and confiscation of properties, all measures of collective punishment, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of civilians;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[61] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment and status of the thousands of prisoners and detainees, including children and women, in Israeli prisons and detention centres in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and expresses grave concern about harsh conditions and ill-treatment of prisoners and recent hunger strikes, while taking note of the agreement reached on May 2012 concerning conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for its full and immediate implementation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

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[71] A/66/371-S/2011/592.

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

## RESOLUTION 67/119

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/424, para. 18),[72] by a recorded vote of 171 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu

### 67/119. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/77 of 9 December 2011,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Recalling* the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907,[73] the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[74] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[75] to the four Geneva Conventions,[76]

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[77] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[78]

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[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[73] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[74] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[75] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[76] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[77] A/67/550.

[78] A/67/332, A/67/338, A/67/372, A/67/375 and A/67/511.

*Considering* that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[79] and also recalling General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

*Noting in particular* the Court's reply, including that the Fourth Geneva Convention[74] is applicable in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and that Israel is in breach of several of the provisions of the Convention,

*Recalling* the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, held on 15 July 1999, as well as the Declaration adopted by the reconvened Conference on 5 December 2001 and the need for the parties to follow up the implementation of the Declaration,

*Welcoming and encouraging* the initiatives by States parties to the Convention, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention, as well as the continuing efforts of the depositary State of the Geneva Conventions in this regard,

*Stressing* that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[74] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions[76] and as mentioned in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,[79] to continue to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including at its tenth emergency special session and including resolution ES-10/15, with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/120

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/424, para. 18),[80] by a recorded vote of 169 to 6, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica,

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[79] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Honduras, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu

## 67/120. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/78 of 9 December 2011, as well as those resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994,

*Reaffirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[81] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Affirming* that the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies constitutes a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention[81] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[82] to the four Geneva Conventions,[83]

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[84] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

*Noting* that the International Court of Justice concluded that "the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including East Jerusalem) have been established in breach of international law",[85]

*Taking note* of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[86]

*Recalling* the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[87] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

*Recalling also* the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[88] and emphasizing specifically its call for a freeze on all settlement activity, including so-called natural growth, and the dismantlement of all settlement outposts erected since March 2001, and the need for Israel to uphold its obligations and commitments in this regard,

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[81] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[82] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[83] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[84] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[85] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 120.

[86] A/HRC/20/32; see also A/67/379.

[87] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[88] S/2003/529, annex.

*Aware* that Israeli settlement activities involve, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the displacement of Palestinian families, the exploitation of natural resources and other actions against the Palestinian civilian population and the civilian population in the occupied Syrian Golan that are contrary to international law,

*Bearing in mind* the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the efforts to resume and advance the peace process, on the credibility of the peace process and on the prospects for the achievement of peace in the Middle East in accordance with the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders,

*Expressing grave concern* about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions, the agreements reached between the parties and obligations under the Quartet road map, and in defiance of the calls by the international community to cease all settlement activities,

*Expressing grave concern in particular* about Israel's construction and expansion of settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem, including its so-called E-1 plan that aims to connect its illegal settlements around and further isolate occupied East Jerusalem, the continuing demolition of Palestinian homes and eviction of Palestinian families from the city, the revocation of Palestinian residency rights in the city, and ongoing settlement activities in the Jordan Valley,

*Expressing grave concern* about the continuing unlawful construction by Israel of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and expressing its concern in particular about the route of the wall in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, which is causing humanitarian hardship and a serious decline of socioeconomic conditions for the Palestinian people, is fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the Territory and undermining its viability, and could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement,

*Deeply concerned* that the wall's route has been traced in such a way as to include the great majority of the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Deploring* settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan and any activities involving the confiscation of land, the disruption of the livelihood of protected persons and the de facto annexation of land,

*Recalling* the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

*Gravely concerned* about the rising incidents of violence, destruction, harassment, provocation and incitement by illegal armed Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands,

*Taking note* of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[89]

*Noting* the special meeting of the Security Council convened on 26 September 2008, as well as the meeting of the Council of 18 February 2011,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[81] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49, and to comply with all of its obligations under international law and cease immediately all actions causing the alteration of the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Reiterates its demand* for the immediate and complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls in

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[89] A/67/332, A/67/338, A/67/372, A/67/375 and A/67/511.

this regard for the full implementation of all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including, inter alia, resolutions 446 (1979), 452 (1979) of 20 July 1979, 465 (1980), 476 (1980) and 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003;

4. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice;[84]

5. *Reiterates its call* for the prevention of all acts of violence, destruction, harassment and provocation by Israeli settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians and their properties, including historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands, and stresses the need for the implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994), in which the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including confiscation of arms, aimed at preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/121

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/424, para. 18),[90] by a recorded vote of 164 to 8, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Panama, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, El Salvador, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Vanuatu

### 67/121. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[91]

*Recalling also* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[92] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[92] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[93] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

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[90] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[91] Resolution 217 A (III).

[92] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[93] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

*Reaffirming* its relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/79 of 9 December 2011 as well as those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and stressing the need for their implementation,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[94] and the report of the Secretary-General,[95]

*Taking note* of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[96] as well as of other relevant recent reports of the Human Rights Council,

*Aware* of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law, and recalling in this regard its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[97] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

*Noting in particular* the Court's reply, including that the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

*Reaffirming also* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[98] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Reaffirming further* the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention[98] under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

*Reaffirming* that all States have the right and the duty to take actions in conformity with international law and international humanitarian law to counter deadly acts of violence against their civilian population in order to protect the lives of their citizens,

*Stressing* the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, including the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings, and the implementation of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[99]

*Stressing also* the need for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip,

*Expressing grave concern* about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including that arising from the excessive use of force and military operations causing death and injury to Palestinian civilians, including children, women and non-violent, peaceful demonstrators; the arbitrary imprisonment and detention of Palestinians; the use of collective punishment; the closure of areas; the confiscation of land; the establishment and expansion of settlements; the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949; the destruction of property and infrastructure; and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

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[94] A/67/550.

[95] A/67/372.

[96] A/HRC/20/32; see also A/67/379.

[97] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[98] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[99] S/2003/529, annex.

*Gravely concerned in particular* about the critical humanitarian, socioeconomic and security situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and from the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, widespread destruction and damage to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities, and the internal displacement of civilians, as well as about the firing of rockets into Israel,

*Stressing* the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

*Gravely concerned* by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[100] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[101] and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties of the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

*Expressing deep concern* about the short- and long-term detrimental impact of such widespread destruction and the continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, on the human rights situation and on the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian civilian population,

*Also expressing deep concern* about the Israeli policy of closures and the imposition of severe restrictions, checkpoints, several of which have been transformed into structures akin to permanent border crossings, and a permit regime, all of which obstruct the freedom of movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian goods, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and impair the Territory's contiguity, consequently violating the human rights of the Palestinian people and negatively impacting their socioeconomic situation and the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy, which remains that of a critical humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, while taking note of recent developments with regard to the situation of access there,

*Expressing grave concern* that thousands of Palestinians, including many children and women, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions, including, inter alia, unhygienic conditions, solitary confinement, the extensive use of administrative detention of excessive duration without charge and denial of due process, lack of proper medical care, denial of family visits and denial of due process, that impair their well-being, and expressing grave concern also about the ill-treatment and harassment of any Palestinian prisoners and all reports of torture,

*Expressing deep concern* about the recent hunger strikes by numerous Palestinian prisoners in protest of the harsh conditions of their imprisonment and detention by the occupying Power, while taking note of the agreement reached in May 2012 on conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for its full and immediate implementation,

*Expressing concern* about the possible consequences of the enactment by Israel, the occupying Power, of military orders regarding the detention, imprisonment and deportation of Palestinian civilians from the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and recalling in this regard the prohibition under international humanitarian law of the deportation of civilians from occupied territories,

*Convinced* of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting the Palestinian civilian population and to help the parties implement the agreements reached, and in this regard recalling the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron,

*Taking note* of the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the security sector by the Palestinian Authority, calling upon the parties to continue cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

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[100] A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[101] A/HRC/12/48.

*Emphasizing* the right of all people in the region to the enjoyment of human rights as enshrined in the international human rights covenants,

1. *Reiterates* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[98] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injury of civilians, the arbitrary detention and imprisonment of civilians and the destruction and confiscation of civilian property, and that it fully respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard, including in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Also demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949[98] and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to resume full cooperation with the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

5. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all of its settlement activities, the construction of the wall and any other measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, all of which, inter alia, gravely and detrimentally impact the human rights of the Palestinian people and the prospects for a peaceful settlement;

6. *Calls for* urgent attention to the plight of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli jails, and calls for efforts between the two sides for the further release of prisoners and detainees;

7. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, particularly in the Gaza Strip, which have caused extensive loss of life and vast numbers of injuries, including among children, massive damage and destruction to homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities, and agricultural lands, and internal displacement of civilians;

8. *Expresses grave concern* at the firing of rockets against Israeli civilian areas resulting in loss of life and injury;

9. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

10. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[97] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 and ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, and that it immediately cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, dismantle forthwith the structure situated therein, repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and make reparation for all damage caused by the construction of the wall, which has gravely impacted the human rights and the socioeconomic living conditions of the Palestinian people;

11. *Reiterates* the need for respect for the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and for guarantees of the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including movement into and from East Jerusalem, into and from the Gaza Strip, between the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and to and from the outside world;

12. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its imposition of prolonged closures and economic and movement restrictions, including those amounting to a blockade on the Gaza Strip, and in this regard to fully implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, in order to allow for the sustained and regular movement of persons and goods and for the acceleration of long overdue reconstruction in the Gaza Strip;

13. *Urges* Member States to continue to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

14. *Emphasizes* the need to preserve and develop the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and the promotion of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/122

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/424, para. 18),[102] by a recorded vote of 168 to 1, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Canada, Honduras, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Tonga, United States of America, Vanuatu

### 67/122. The occupied Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[103]

*Deeply concerned* that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

*Recalling also* its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 66/80 of 9 December 2011,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 66/80,[104]

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

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[102] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[103] A/67/550.

[104] A/67/338.

*Reaffirming once more* the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

*Reaffirming* that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[105] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

*Welcoming* the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[105] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/123

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/425, para. 9)[106]

### 67/123. Comprehensive review of special political missions

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

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[105] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[106] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Belize and Mexico.

*Reaffirming* the respective roles and authority of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter,

*Convinced* of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the areas of conflict prevention and the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Recalling* the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions,[107] which addressed the financial and administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions, recognizing that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters,

1. *Acknowledges* the increase in the number and the complexity of special political missions;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including their evolution and trends, as well as their role in activities of the Organization relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and to make recommendations to increase their overall transparency and effectiveness;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to hold regular inclusive and interactive exchanges on the overall policy matters related to special political missions in order to promote closer collaboration with Member States;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session a new item entitled "Comprehensive review of special political missions", to allocate the item to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and to consider the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General under that item.

## RESOLUTIONS 67/124 A and B

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/426, para. 12)[108]

### 67/124. Questions relating to information

### A

### INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

*The General Assembly*,

*Taking note* of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[109]

*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General,[110]

*Urges* all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communications policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

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[107] A/66/340 and A/66/7/Add.21.

[108] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Committee on Information.

[109] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/67/21).

[110] A/67/307.

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communications capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communications technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communications systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communications technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communications technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

## B

### UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

*The General Assembly*,

*Emphasizing* that the Committee on Information is its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, in which it established the Department of Public Information, with a view to promoting to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world, and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly related to the activities of the Department,

*Emphasizing* that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications and transparency should permeate all levels of the Organization as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

*Stressing* that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, balanced, timely and relevant information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency, *Recalling* its resolution 65/107 B of 10 December 2010, which provided an opportunity to take due steps to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of Public Information and to maximize the use of its resources,

*Expressing its concern* that the gap in information and communications technology between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the information and communications technologies that are currently available, and in this regard underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances in the present development of information and communications technologies in order to make it more just, equitable and effective,

*Recognizing* that developments in information and communications technologies open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries, and, at the same time, emphasizing that the development of these technologies poses challenges and risks and could lead to the further widening of disparities between and within countries,

*Recalling* its resolution 65/311 of 19 July 2011 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, and the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department,

## I

## Introduction

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in relevant resolutions;

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations remains the indispensable foundation of a peaceful and just world and that its voice must be heard in a clear and effective manner, and emphasizes the essential role of the Department of Public Information in this context;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of clear, timely, accurate and comprehensive information by the Secretariat to Member States, upon their request, within the framework of existing mandates and procedures;

4. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Committee on Information in United Nations public information policies and activities, including the prioritization of those activities, and decides that recommendations relating to the programme of the Department of Public Information shall originate, to the extent possible, in the Committee and shall be considered by the Committee;

5. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, following the priorities laid down by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/244 of 24 December 2010, and recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[111] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[112] to pay particular attention to peace and security, development and human rights and to major issues such as the eradication of poverty, including the global food crisis, conflict prevention, sustainable development, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and the needs of the African continent;

6. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to pay particular attention to progress in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and the outcomes of the major related United Nations summits and conferences in carrying out its activities, and calls upon the Department to play an active role in raising public awareness of the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and of the global challenge of climate change, in particular the actions taken within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

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[111] Resolution 55/2.

[112] Resolution 60/1.

Change,[113] especially in the context of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, particularly in the context of the Conference of the Parties and of the Meetings of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;[114]

## II

## General activities of the Department of Public Information

7. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information;[115]

8. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to maintain its commitment to a culture of evaluation and to continue to evaluate its products and activities with the objective of enhancing their effectiveness, and to continue to cooperate and coordinate with Member States and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat;

9. *Reaffirms* the importance of more effective coordination between the Department of Public Information and the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure consistency in the messages of the Organization;

10. *Notes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly, and requests the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

11. *Encourages* continued collaboration between the Department of Public Information and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of culture and in the fields of education and communication, bridging the existing gap between the developed and the developing countries;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communications activities, urges the Department to encourage the United Nations Communications Group to promote linguistic diversity in its work, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-fifth session on progress achieved in this regard;

13. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information must prioritize its work programme, while respecting existing mandates and in line with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[116] to focus its message and better concentrate its efforts and to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, balanced, objective and equitable information in all official languages about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Department of Public Information and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that United Nations publications are produced in all official languages, as well as in an environmentally friendly and cost-neutral manner, and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities, including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in order to avoid duplication in the issuance of United Nations publications;

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[113] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[114] Ibid., vol. 2303, No. 30822.

[115] A/AC.198/2012/2–4.

[116] ST/SGB/2000/8.

16. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to consult on opportunities for merging their publishing activities and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-fifth session;

17. *Emphasizes* that the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, and that the activities of the Department should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

18. *Reiterates its concern* that the issuance of daily press releases has not been expanded to all official languages, as requested in previous resolutions and in full respect of the principle of parity of all six official languages, and requests the Department of Public Information to design a strategy to deliver daily press releases in all six official languages through creative schemes, within existing resources and in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-fifth session;

### Multilingualism and public information

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, whether based on traditional or new media, including in presentations to the Committee on Information, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the five other official languages;

20. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Department of Public Information has appropriate staffing capacity in all the official languages of the United Nations to undertake all its activities and to include this aspect in future programme budget proposals for the Department, bearing in mind the principle of parity of all six official languages, while respecting the workload in each official language;

21. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to enhance multilingualism in all its activities, stresses the importance of ensuring that the texts of all new public United Nations documents in all six official languages, information materials and all older United Nations documents are made available through the United Nations website and are accessible to Member States without delay, and further stresses the importance of fully implementing its resolution 65/311;

### Bridging the digital divide

22. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to contribute to raising the awareness of the international community of the importance of the implementation of the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society[117] and of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide, including by commemorating World Information Society Day on 17 May;

### Network of United Nations information centres

23. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations, in disseminating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations, and in mobilizing support for the work of the United Nations at the local level;

24. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, encourages the network of information centres to continue to develop web pages in local languages and the Department of Public Information to provide necessary resources and technical facilities, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all the corners of the world, in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard;

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[117] A/C.2/59/3, annex, and A/60/687.

25. *Stresses* the importance of rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to make proposals in this direction, including through the redeployment of resources where necessary, and to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

26. *Reaffirms* that the rationalization of United Nations information centres must be carried out on a case-by-case basis in consultation with all concerned Member States in which existing information centres are located, the countries served by those information centres and other interested countries in the region, taking into consideration the distinctive characteristics of each region;

27. *Recognizes* that the network of United Nations information centres, especially in developing countries, should continue to enhance its impact and activities, including through strategic communications support, and calls upon the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of this approach to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

28. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres, to strengthen its cooperation with all other United Nations entities at the country level and in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, in order to enhance coherence in communications and to avoid duplication of work;

29. *Stresses* the importance of taking into account the special needs and requirements of developing countries in the field of information and communications technology for the effective flow of information in those countries;

30. *Also stresses* the importance of efforts to strengthen the outreach activities of the United Nations to those Member States remaining outside the network of United Nations information centres, and encourages the Secretary-General, in the context of rationalization, to extend the services of the network of information centres to those Member States;

31. *Further stresses* that the Department of Public Information should continue to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to the United Nations information centres in developing countries, taking into account the specific needs of the least developed countries;

32. *Welcomes* the support of some Member States, including developing countries, in offering, inter alia, rent-free premises for the United Nations information centres because of lack of funding, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

33. *Notes* the strengthening of the United Nations information centres in Cairo, Mexico City and Pretoria, and encourages the Secretary-General to explore the strengthening of other centres, especially in Africa, in cooperation with the Member States concerned and in a cost-neutral manner;

34. *Welcomes* General Assembly resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations information centre in Luanda as a contribution towards addressing the needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Government of Angola, to take the measures necessary for the prompt establishment of the information centre, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-fifth session on the progress made in this regard;

35. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, when appointing directors to the United Nations information centres, to fully consider, inter alia, the experience of candidates in the field of information and communications technology as one of the highly desirable appointment criteria;

## III

## Strategic communications services

36. *Reaffirms* the role of the strategic communications services in devising and disseminating United Nations messages by developing communications strategies, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in full compliance with their legislative mandates;

**Promotional campaigns**

37. *Appreciates* the work of the Department of Public Information in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, such as the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the progress made in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, United Nations reform, the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, sustainable development, disarmament, decolonization, human rights, including the rights of women and children, persons with disabilities and migrant workers, strategic coordination in humanitarian relief, especially in natural disasters and other crises, HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases and other diseases, the needs of the African continent, the nature of the critical economic and social situation in Africa and the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[118] the special needs of the least developed countries, the establishment of the permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, dialogue among civilizations, the culture of peace and tolerance and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as prevention of genocide, and requests the Department, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of all these issues;

38. *Requests* the Secretariat, especially the Department of Public Information, to contribute to the observance of International Mother Language Day on 21 February, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on 25 March, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/122 of 17 December 2007, Nelson Mandela International Day on 18 July, in accordance with Assembly resolution 64/13 of 10 November 2009, and the International Day of Nowruz on 21 March, in accordance with Assembly resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, and to play a role in raising awareness and promoting these events in a cost-neutral manner, where appropriate;

39. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and requests the Department to widely disseminate information on the outcome of the Conference;[119]

40. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of and disseminate information, in a cost-neutral manner, on the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010;

**Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding**

41. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department of Public Information from the planning stage of future peacekeeping operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support;

42. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to continue their cooperation in raising awareness of the new realities, far-reaching successes and challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, especially multidimensional and complex ones, and the recent surge in United Nations peacekeeping activities, and welcomes efforts by the three Departments to develop and implement a comprehensive communications strategy on current challenges facing United Nations peacekeeping;

43. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role, in close cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, in the process of selecting public information staff for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and in this regard invites the Department of Public Information to second public information staff who have the skills necessary to fulfil the tasks of the operations or

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[118] A/57/304, annex.

[119] Resolution 66/288, annex.

missions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Chapter XV, Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

44. *Emphasizes* the importance of the peacekeeping gateway on the United Nations website, and requests the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts in supporting the peacekeeping missions to further develop their websites;

45. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue to cooperate in implementing an effective outreach programme to explain the zero-tolerance policy of the Organization regarding sexual exploitation and abuse and to inform the public of the outcome of all such cases involving peacekeeping personnel, including cases where allegations are ultimately found to be legally unproven, and also to inform the public of the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel;[120]

46. *Notes* the importance of communications and information activities relating to peacebuilding efforts, in particular those of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Support Office of the Secretariat and the Peacebuilding Fund, and requests the Department of Public Information to cooperate with these entities in that regard, with a view to widening outreach of their important work;

### Role of the Department of Public Information in strengthening dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace as means of enhancing understanding among nations

47. *Recalls* its resolutions on dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace,[121] and requests the Department of Public Information, while ensuring the pertinence and relevance of subjects for promotional campaigns under this issue, to continue to provide the support necessary for the dissemination of information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, as well as the initiative on the Alliance of Civilizations, and to take due steps in fostering the culture of dialogue among civilizations and promoting cultural understanding, tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion or belief and effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

48. *Invites* the United Nations system, especially the Department of Public Information, to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and to formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields, taking into account the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,[122] and in this regard reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session the report requested by the Assembly in its resolution 60/4 of 20 October 2005;

49. *Recognizes* the achievements of the Alliance of Civilizations and the efforts made by the High Representative of the Secretary-General for the Alliance of Civilizations, which it had welcomed in its resolution 64/14 of 10 November 2009, notes the broad range of initiatives and partnerships in the areas of youth, education, the media and migration launched at the fourth Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held in Doha from 11 to 13 December 2011, and welcomes the continuing support of the Department of Public Information for the work of the Alliance of Civilizations, including its ongoing projects;

## IV

### News services

50. *Stresses* that the central objective of the news services implemented by the Department of Public Information is the timely delivery of accurate, objective and balanced news and information emanating from the United Nations system in all four mass media, namely, print, radio, television and the Internet, to the media and

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[120] Resolution 62/214, annex.

[121] Resolutions 52/15, 53/22, 53/25, 55/23, 56/6, 59/142 and 60/4.

[122] Resolution 56/6, sect. B.

other audiences worldwide, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism, and reiterates its request to the Department to ensure that all news-breaking stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias;

51. *Recognizes* the important role of the television services provided by the Department of Public Information, and notes the recent efforts in making available online broadcast-quality video that can be downloaded by smaller broadcast outlets that do not have access to satellite feeds;

52. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Department of Public Information continuing to draw the attention of world media to stories that do not obtain prominent coverage, through the initiative entitled "10 Stories the World Should Hear More About" and through video and audio coverage by United Nations Television and United Nations Radio;

### Traditional means of communication

53. *Welcomes* the sustained efforts of United Nations Radio, which remains one of the most effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, to enhance the timeliness, presentation and thematic focus of its multilingual programmes on United Nations activities and to ensure the widest possible dissemination of its programming to media outlets using the most suitable platforms and formats, prerecorded or live, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to achieve parity in the six official languages in United Nations Radio productions;

54. *Endorses* the resolution adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session, proclaiming 13 February, the day United Nations Radio was established in 1946, as World Radio Day;[123]

55. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, with the addition of Portuguese and Kiswahili, as well as in other languages where possible;

56. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue building partnerships with local, national and regional broadcasters to extend the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in an accurate and impartial way, and requests the Department's News and Media Division to continue to take full advantage of the technological infrastructure made available in recent years;

### United Nations website

57. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for the media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, Member States and the general public, and in this regard reiterates the continued need for strengthened efforts by the Department of Public Information to maintain and improve it;

58. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the Department of Public Information to implement the basic accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities to access the United Nations website, and calls upon the Department to continue to work towards compliance with accessibility requirements on all new and updated pages of the website, with the aim of ensuring its accessibility for persons with different kinds of disabilities;

59. *Notes* that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website has improved, and in this regard requests the Department of Public Information, in coordination with content-providing offices of the Secretariat, to further improve the actions taken to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website, and especially reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure the adequate distribution of financial and human resources within the Department allocated to the United Nations website among all official languages, taking into consideration the specificity of each official language;

60. *Recognizes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Public Information with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in some official languages, and reiterates its urgent request to the Secretary-General to extend those arrangements to all the official languages of the United Nations;

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[123] See A/67/62, enclosure.

61. *Reiterates its request* that all content-providing offices of the Secretariat translate all English-language materials and databases posted on the United Nations website into all other official languages and make them available on the respective language websites in the most practical, efficient and cost-effective manner;

62. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of Public Information on a continuous basis in order to widen the outreach of the Department and to continue to improve the United Nations website in a cost-neutral manner;

63. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take full advantage of new developments in information technology in order to improve the expeditious dissemination of information on the United Nations in a cost-neutral manner, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly in its resolutions and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization, recognizes the e-mail news alerts service, and encourages the Department of Public Information to consult with the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat in order to explore, as a matter of priority, the provision of the service in all official languages;

64. *Recognizes* that some official languages use non-Latin and bidirectional scripts and that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations are based on Latin script, which leads to difficulties in processing non-Latin and bidirectional scripts, and urges the Office of Information and Communications Technology to further collaborate with the Department of Public Information and to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

## V

## Library services

65. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information, recognizing the importance of audiovisual archives and the actions taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library to preserve the published record of the Organization as a common heritage, welcoming the completion of an inventory of 65 years of United Nations audiovisual history, stressing the urgency of digitization in order to prevent further deterioration of the unique historical archives, and noting efforts made by the Department thus far to develop a digitization strategy in consultation with other Departments, including the Office of Information and Communications Technology, to explore avenues of support for digitization, including working with interested partners, to ensure that such archives are preserved and are accessible;

66. *Requests*, in that context, that the Department of Public Information implement the recommendations of its working group on library improvement;

67. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information to continue to lead the Steering Committee for the Modernization and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries, and further commends the steps taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the other member libraries of the Steering Committee to align their activities, services and outputs more closely with the goals, objectives and operational priorities of the Organization;

68. *Reiterates* the need to maintain a multilingual collection of books, periodicals and other materials in hard copy, accessible to Member States and others, as specified in paragraph 71 below, ensuring that the Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

69. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information, recognizing the importance of audiovisual archives in preserving our common heritage, to continue to examine its policies and activities regarding the durable preservation of its radio, television, film and photographic archives and the action taken in ensuring that the archives are preserved and are accessible, including in the context of the construction work of the capital master plan within the overall budget of the plan;

70. *Notes* the initiative taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in its capacity as the focal point, to expand the scope of the regional training and knowledge-sharing workshops organized for the depository libraries in developing countries to include outreach in their activities;

71. *Acknowledges* the role of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in enhancing knowledge-sharing and networking activities to ensure access to the vast store of United Nations knowledge for delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide;

72. *Notes* the efforts of the iSeek team, through the intranet, to raise awareness among staff members of new initiatives and developments in different departments of the Secretariat, and requests the Department of Public Information to work out a strategy for Member States to also benefit from these new developments;

### VI

### Outreach services

73. *Takes note* of the letter dated 30 April 2012 from the Senior Public Information and Liaison Officer of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the Chair of the Committee on Information,[124] and encourages the United Nations Academic Impact to take effective steps to facilitate exchanges between the United Nations and institutions of higher education in all regions to support the common principles and goals of the United Nations, while recognizing the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its constitution;

74. *Acknowledges* that the outreach services provided by the Department of Public Information continue to work towards promoting awareness of the role and work of the United Nations;

75. *Welcomes* the educational outreach activities of the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations Works programme and the Global Teaching and Learning Project, to reach educators and young people worldwide via a range of multimedia platforms, and encourages the United Nations Works programme to continue to develop further its partnerships with global media networks and celebrity advocates and the Global Teaching and Learning Project to further expand its activities to teachers and students in primary, intermediate and secondary schools;

76. *Notes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Public Information of the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as mandated by the General Assembly, and requests the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the programme by extending, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants;

77. *Welcomes* the movement towards educational outreach and the orientation of the *UN Chronicle*, both print and online editions, and to this end encourages the *UN Chronicle* to continue to develop co-publishing partnerships, collaborative educational activities and events with civil society organizations and institutions of higher learning;

78. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue the publication of the *UN Chronicle* with a view to improving it further in a cost-neutral manner and to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-fifth session on progress in this matter, and reiterates its request to submit options for publishing the *UN Chronicle* in all six official languages;

79. *Notes* the efforts undertaken by the Department of Public Information in organizing exhibitions on important United Nations-related issues, within existing mandates, at United Nations Headquarters and at other United Nations offices as a useful tool for reaching out to the general public, reaffirms the important role that guided tours play as a means of reaching out to the general public, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that the guided tours provided at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations duty stations are consistently available, in accordance with their income-generating nature, in particular in all the United Nations official languages;

80. *Also notes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to strengthen its role as a focal point for two-way interaction with civil society relating to the priorities and concerns of the Organization identified by Member States, and further notes in this regard the increasing involvement of civil society in United Nations activities;

81. *Commends*, in a spirit of cooperation, the United Nations Correspondents Association for its ongoing activities and for its Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial Scholarship Fund, which sponsors journalists from developing countries to come to United Nations Headquarters and report on the activities during the General Assembly, and further encourages the international community to continue its financial support for the Fund;

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[124] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/67/21), annex.

82. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts and contribution of United Nations Messengers of Peace, Goodwill Ambassadors and other advocates to promote the work of the United Nations and to enhance international public awareness of its priorities and concerns, and calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to involve them in its communications and media strategies and outreach activities;

### VII

### Final remarks

83. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-fifth session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of all recommendations and requests contained in the present resolution;

84. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure that the level of services provided by the Department of Public Information is maintained throughout the period of the implementation of the capital master plan;

85. *Notes* the initiative taken by the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Department of Safety and Security and the Protocol and Liaison Service of the Secretariat, during the annual general debate of the General Assembly, to issue special identification stickers to press officers of Member States to enable them to escort media covering the visits of high-level officials to restricted areas, and strongly urges the Secretary-General to continue to improve this practice by acceding to the request by Member States to provide the needed number of additional passes to press officers of Member States to allow their access to all areas that are deemed restricted, in order to effectively and comprehensively report on high-level meetings that include officials of delegations of Member States;

86. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

87. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

## RESOLUTION 67/125

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/427, para. 7),[125] by a recorded vote of 175 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
*Against:* None
*Abstaining:* France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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[125] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

## 67/125. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

*Recalling also* its resolution 66/82 of 9 December 2011, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

*Stressing* the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[126]

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

## RESOLUTION 67/126

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/428, para. 7),[127] by a recorded vote of 178 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar,

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[126] A/67/71.

[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

## 67/126. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012 relating to the item,[128]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991, 55/146 of 8 December 2000 and 65/119 of 10 December 2010,

*Reaffirming* the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

*Reaffirming also* that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Reaffirming further* that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

*Conscious also* that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socioeconomic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

*Concerned* about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing

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[128] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1), chap. V.

the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socioeconomic development of the Territories, especially during times of economic and financial crisis;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/127

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/429, para. 7),[129] by a recorded vote of 127 to none, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### 67/127. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

*Having also considered* the report of the Secretary-General[130] and the report of the Economic and Social Council[131] on the item,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012 relating to the item,[132]

*Recalling* its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolutions 2011/40 of 28 July 2011 and 2012/22 of 26 July 2012,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

*Conscious* of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

*Noting* that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

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[129] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[130] A/67/64.

[131] E/2012/47 and Corr.1.

[132] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1), chap. VI.

*Welcoming* the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

*Welcoming also* the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social spheres, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

*Noting* that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Stressing* that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

*Stressing also* the importance of securing the resources necessary for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

*Reaffirming* the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

*Expressing its conviction* that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

*Mindful* of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

*Bearing in mind* the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/84 of 9 December 2011 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[130]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as an important element for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), including possible participation at the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

11. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

12. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,[133] calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

14. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Recalls* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization, and requests its continued updating and wide dissemination;

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[133] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), sect. III.G.

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the measures necessary to implement it, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/128

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/430, para. 7)[134]

### 67/128. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/85 of 9 December 2011,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[135] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

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[134] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, China, Cuba, Egypt, Gabon, Nigeria, Singapore, Thailand and United Republic of Tanzania.

[135] A/67/74.

*Conscious* of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Strongly convinced* that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[135]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/129

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/431, para. 25)[136]

### 67/129. Question of Western Sahara

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered in depth* the question of Western Sahara,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/86 of 9 December 2011,

*Recalling also* all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

*Recalling further* Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

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[136] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

*Underlining* the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009, 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010, 1979 (2011) on 27 April 2011 and 2044 (2012) on 24 April 2012,

*Expressing its satisfaction* that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

*Also expressing its satisfaction* at the holding of nine informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, from 5 to 7 June 2011 and from 19 to 21 July 2011, both on Long Island, and from 11 to 13 March 2012 in Manhasset, New York, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

*Calling upon* all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012,[137]

*Having also examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[138]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[138]

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011) and 2044 (2012) with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, noting efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011) and 2044 (2012) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[137] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1), chap. VIII.

[138] A/67/366.

## RESOLUTION 67/130

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/431, para. 25)[139]

### 67/130. Question of New Caledonia

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the question of New Caledonia,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012 relating to New Caledonia,[140]

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

*Noting* the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

*Noting also*, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

*Taking note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, submitted to the Human Rights Council at its eighteenth session, held from 12 to 30 September and on 21 October 2011,[141] following his visit to the Territory in February 2011,

*Noting with satisfaction* the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

*Recalling*, in this regard, the conclusions of the eighteenth Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit, held in Suva on 31 March 2011, including the recommendations for the annual monitoring and assessment of the Nouméa Accord,[142]

*Welcoming* the exchange of letters between the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the secretariat of the Melanesian Spearhead Group on the sharing of information on New Caledonia,

1. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord,[142] which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

2. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia since the signing of the Nouméa Accord on 5 May 1998 by the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;

3. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, within the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony, and in this context welcomes again the unanimous agreement, reached in Paris on 8 December 2008, on the transfer of powers to New Caledonia in 2009;

4. *Notes* that during the meeting on 8 July 2011 of the follow-up committee overseeing the progress of the Nouméa Accord, held in the presence of the signatories, members of Parliament, Presidents of the provinces and the

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[139] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[140] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1), chap. VIII.

[141] A/HRC/18/35/Add.6, annex.

[142] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

President of the Customary Senate, the parties acknowledged the progress in the transfer of powers, particularly those related to civil and commercial law and civil status regulations and the civil security sector, which will take effect in 2013 and 2014;

5. *Also notes* that, consequent to the decision taken by the follow-up committee on 24 June 2010, the steering committee on the institutional future of New Caledonia was established and mandated to prepare the basic issues to be decided by referendum, namely, the transfer of sovereign powers, access to full international status and the organization of citizenship by nationality;

6. *Welcomes*, in that regard, the five agreements signed in October 2011 by the French authorities and the Government of New Caledonia to organize the transfer of secondary education, with effect on 1 January 2012;

7. *Recalls* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and notes that, in accordance with the Nouméa Accord, the new anthem is used together with the French anthem and that, in 2010, the follow-up committee recommended that the French flag and the Kanak flag should fly together in New Caledonia;

8. *Acknowledges* those provisions of the Nouméa Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment, and notes that unemployment remains high among Kanaks and that recruitment of foreign mine workers continues;

9. *Notes* the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the governmental and social structures of the Territory;

10. *Also notes* the concerns expressed by representatives of indigenous people regarding incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

11. *Takes note* of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples,[141] made in the light of relevant international standards, to assist with ongoing efforts to advance the rights of the Kanak people in the context of the implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the United Nations-supported decolonization process;

12. *Also takes note* of the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

13. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

14. *Recalls* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

15. *Notes* the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund in such areas as economic and trade cooperation, the environment, climate change and financial services;

16. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

17. *Also welcomes* all measures taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

18. *Further welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

19. *Notes* the financial assistance rendered by the Government of France to the Territory in areas such as health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding development schemes;

20. *Also notes* the visit to New Caledonia from 14 to 18 November 2011 of the Melanesian Spearhead Group technical mission composed of senior officials, pursuant to the recommendations of the Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit of 31 March 2011 for the annual monitoring and assessment of the Nouméa Accord, and the second visit, conducted from 13 to 18 August 2012, by the Melanesian Spearhead Group high-level ministerial mission;

21. *Welcomes* the continuous participation of the Kanaks through the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste at all the Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit meetings since it became a full member of the Melanesian Spearhead Group in 1990;

22. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

23. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, including the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

24. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during successive France-Oceania Summits;

25. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the convention, signed on 26 January 2012, relating to the hosting of New Caledonian delegates in the French diplomatic and consular missions in the Pacific region and the easing of short-stay visa procedures for countries of the South Pacific;

26. *Welcomes* the participation of New Caledonia at the forty-second meeting of the leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Auckland, New Zealand, on 7 and 8 September 2011, as an associate member, and notes the continuing desire of the Territory to accede to full membership in the Forum;

27. *Recalls* the continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

28. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

29. *Also welcomes* the organization by New Caledonia of the Pacific Games from 27 August to 10 September 2011, in which 22 countries of the Pacific region took part, thereby fostering regional integration;

30. *Further welcomes* the hosting of the fourth Melanesian Spearhead Group Melanesian Arts Festival, from 12 to 24 September 2010, organized by the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste, the Kanak communities and New Caledonia;

31. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

32. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/131

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/431, para. 25)[143]

### 67/131. Question of Tokelau

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the question of Tokelau,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012 relating to Tokelau,[144]

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[143] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[144] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1), chap. X.

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 66/88 of 9 December 2011,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

*Noting with appreciation also* the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

*Noting* that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

*Noting also* the status of Tokelau as an associate member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Recalling* that New Zealand and Tokelau signed on 21 November 2003 a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

*Bearing in mind* the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007, and that the two referendums did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change the status of Tokelau from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand,

1. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono in 2008 that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life for the people of Tokelau;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils) since 2004;

3. *Notes* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

4. *Acknowledges* the adoption by Tokelau of its National Strategic Plan for 2010–2015 and that the Joint Commitment for Development between Tokelau and New Zealand 2011–2015 will focus on a viable transportation arrangement, infrastructure development, human resources capacity and the strengthening of governance;

5. *Also acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme;

6. *Further acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support from the international community;

7. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

8. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

10. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau;

11. *Also welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

12. *Further welcomes* the commitment of Tokelau, with the assistance of the administering Power, to the reduction in the use of fossil fuels, with the aim of meeting its electricity needs entirely through renewable energy by the end of 2012;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTIONS 67/132 A and B

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/431, para. 25)[145]

## 67/132. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

### A

### GENERAL

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012,[146]

*Recalling* all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolutions,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Expressing concern* that 52 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[147] there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

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[145] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[146] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1), chap. IX.

[147] Resolution 1514 (XV).

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[148] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Noting* the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

*Noting also* the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Convinced also* that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through orders in council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

*Aware* of the importance of the international financial services and tourism sectors for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time, in consultation with the relevant administering Powers and in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Mindful also* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the relevant administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

*Acknowledging* the regular transmission by the administering Powers to the Secretary-General of information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

*Aware* of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

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[148] A/56/61, annex.

*Noting* the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and at its regional seminars,

*Mindful* that the 2012 Pacific regional seminar was held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and in that connection bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social spheres,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Noting* the statement made by the representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011 that all six Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories are active associate members of the Commission,

*Aware* that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[149] reviews the status of the self-determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

*Recalling* the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

*Recognizing* that the annual working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,[150] as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non-governmental organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs to update the present resolutions,

*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[151]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

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[149] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[150] A/AC.109/2012/2–11 and 13.

[151] A/65/330 and Add.1.

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and, as a priority, to mitigate the effects of the current global financial crisis where possible, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, towards the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories and to provide assistance to those Territories, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plans of action for the Second[148] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the context of the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the various constitutional exercises in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements, and decides to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[149] with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Special Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to collaborate with the Economic and Social Council and its relevant subsidiary intergovernmental bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

## B

## INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

*The General Assembly*,

*Referring* to resolution A above,

## I

## American Samoa

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[152] and other relevant information,

*Noting* the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the Territory's position that it should be removed from the United Nations list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories continued to hold, that it was time to make political and economic progress while respecting the concerns of the administering Power and the United Nations, and that there was a need for a more structured approach to determine the will of the people with a detailed workplan on how best to gauge the will of the people on political status,

*Aware* that, under United States law, the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,[153]

*Recalling* the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa at regional seminars, including at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar, inviting the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

*Aware* of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007 and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee in the Territory, as well as the holding in June 2010 of American Samoa's fourth Constitutional Convention,

*Noting*, in that regard, the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar and previous policy papers presented to the Special Committee stating that, against a backdrop of a decades-long popular preference for integration with the United States of America, the Territory wished to move forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues, as well as remarks made by the Governor and the United States Congressman representing American Samoa, in 2012, on the issue of reviewing the relationship of the Territory with the United States and looking at options to become more independent, including a compact of free association agreement,

*Acknowledging* the indication by the territorial Government, including at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, that the effects of certain federal laws on the economy of the Territory give serious cause for concern,

*Aware* that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues with a view to making political and economic progress;

2. *Expresses once again its appreciation* for the invitation extended in 2011 by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

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[152] A/AC.109/2012/11.

[153] United States Congress, 1929 (48 U.S.C. Sec. 1661, 45 Stat. 1253), and Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America, 1951, as amended.

3. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the diversification and sustainability of the economy of the Territory and to address employment and cost-of-living issues;

## II

## Anguilla

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[154] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

*Recalling also* the statement made by the representative of Anguilla at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the people of the Territory are concerned that they are being denied the full range of decolonization options while the territorial Government seeks a comprehensive overhaul of the current Constitution, in particular a serious reduction in the powers of the Governor under a drafting exercise that began in 2011,

*Aware* of the follow-up meeting, held after the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, between the Chair of the Special Committee and the Chief Minister of Anguilla, who reiterated the urgent need for a visiting mission,

*Noting* the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power and the decisions taken in 2008 and 2011 to set up a drafting team to prepare a new constitution and present it for public consultation in the Territory,

*Aware* of certain difficulties and tensions in the relations between the territorial Government and the administering Power regarding budgetary and economic matters,

*Noting* the participation of the Territory as a member in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council and an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

*Aware* of the willingness expressed by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community to assist in the resolution of difficulties being experienced by the territorial Government in respect of its relations with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

1. *Welcomes* the preparations made for a new constitution, and urges that constitutional discussions with the administering Power, including public consultations, be concluded as soon as possible;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

3. *Notes* the expression of grave concern by the Caribbean Community at the tension between the administering Power and the territorial Government and the deterioration in the Territory's governance arrangements;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

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[154] A/AC.109/2012/2.

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including budgetary matters, with regional support as needed and appropriate;

7. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

### III

### Bermuda

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[155] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of Bermuda at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the circumstances of the Territory with respect to the issue of independence are unique and that its dream of independence persists, albeit temporarily deferred, as the pursuit of independence is not a current top priority for the people of Bermuda,

*Conscious* of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting the results of successive surveys by local media, according to which a majority of respondents did not wish to sever ties with the United Kingdom, the administering Power, and a minority was in favour of independence,

*Recalling* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

### IV

### British Virgin Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[156] and other relevant information,

*Noting* the statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the interim position of the Territory was to maintain its current relationship with the administering Power, built on mutual respect and a mature partnership, as the Territory continues to grow and generations of British Virgin Islanders attain higher levels of education,

*Recalling* the view expressed in the statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar that there was scope for further constitutional review with respect to the practical and effective implementation of the provisions of the 2007 Constitution in the Territory,

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[155] A/AC.109/2012/4.

[156] A/AC.109/2012/6.

*Aware* of the negative impact of the global economic slowdown on the growth of the financial and tourism services sectors of the Territory, which was less severe in 2011,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Recalls* the Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, which took effect in 2007, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters, to accord greater responsibility to the territorial Government for the effective implementation of the Constitution and increased levels of education relating to constitutional matters;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Territory to strengthen its financial services and tourism sectors;

4. *Also welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Further welcomes* the holding, for the first time at the level of heads of territorial Government, on 12 May 2011, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the United States Virgin Islands;

## V

## Cayman Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[157] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of the territorial Government at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010,

*Aware* of the work, in accordance with the 2009 Constitution, of the new Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

*Conscious* of the work of the Cayman Islands Review Committee established by the Premier in 2011 to comment on the relationship between the United Kingdom and the Cayman Islands,

*Acknowledging* that, in spite of the global economic downturn and unemployment issues, the financial services and tourism industries of the Territory reportedly rebounded in 2011 and the openness of the Government to partnership would facilitate economic activity in the private sector,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Welcomes* the desire, reflected in the Cayman Islands Review Committee report of 2011, to enhance the relationship between the Territory and the administering Power in mutually beneficial ways, with a view to creating more local autonomy, and stresses the importance of the work of the Constitutional Commission, including on human rights education;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

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[157] A/AC.109/2012/7.

4. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to implement financial sector management policies, medical and sports tourism initiatives and unemployment alleviation programmes in various economic sectors, including agriculture and the private sector;

## VI

## Guam

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[158] and other relevant information,

*Noting* the statement made by the representative of the Governor of Guam at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the colonial status of the Territory has resulted in a situation where the survival of the Chamorro people as a people in their native land is threatened and that the work of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination in 2011 was centred on setting a date for the plebiscite on Chamorro self-determination and on identifying the resources to fund an education campaign to inform the community of the political status issue,

*Cognizant* of the efforts made by the Guam Commission on Decolonization to populate the decolonization registry, as required by public law, and to enhance the ability to expediently register those who have not yet been registered,

*Aware* that, under United States law, the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[159]

*Recalling* that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

*Recalling also* the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory, including at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

*Aware* that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

*Cognizant* of the importance of the administering Power continuing to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

*Noting* that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

*Aware* of the deep concerns expressed by civil society and others, including at meetings of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) of the General Assembly and at the regional seminars, regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

*Conscious* that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Welcomes* the convening of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination in 2011 and its work on a self-determination vote;

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[158] A/AC.109/2012/13.

[159] United States Congress, Organic Act of Guam, 1950, as amended.

2. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

4. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, including through the funding of the public education campaign, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, and welcomes the recent outreach work by the territorial Government, including the convening in 2011 of a Chamorro forum;

5. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

## VII

## Montserrat

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[160] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the Premier of Montserrat at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the current relationship with the administering Power was one made by free choice and that the Territory should be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Recalling also* the statements made by the members of the Special Committee present at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar and the clarification made by the Secretariat regarding United Nations procedures in that regard,

*Taking note* of the communication addressed to the Chair of the Special Committee by the opposition leader of Montserrat expressing concern that the Premier had no prior discussion with the legislature of Montserrat over the content of his statement before requesting the Special Committee to remove the Territory from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Noting* the approval of a new Constitution in 2010 and the work of the territorial Government to update the relevant parts of the legislation of the Territory so that the Constitution could enter into force in September 2011,

*Aware* that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

*Recalling* the statements made by participants at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar encouraging the administering Power to commit sufficient resources to meet the special needs of the Territory,

*Noting with concern* the continuing consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

*Acknowledging* the continuing assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

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[160] A/AC.109/2012/10.

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Welcomes* the approval of a new Constitution for the Territory, which entered into force in 2011, and the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward to consolidate the gains provided for in the Constitution;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the steps towards accession of the Territory, in 2012, to the economic union treaty of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and its active participation in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

## VIII

## Pitcairn

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[161] and other relevant information,

*Taking into account* the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

*Aware* that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a new governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

*Noting* that the administering Power and the Pitcairn Government are currently working on a five-year strategic development plan for the island,

1. *Welcomes* all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through training of local personnel;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support socioeconomic and environmental security in Pitcairn;

4. *Welcomes* the work carried out on the preparation of a five-year strategic development plan for the island;

## IX

## Saint Helena

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[162] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

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[161] A/AC.109/2012/3.

[162] A/AC.109/2012/5.

*Taking into account* the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

*Cognizant* that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

*Aware* of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment and transport and communications infrastructure,

*Noting* the efforts of the Territory to address the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government in dealing with it, including through the Labour Market Strategy 2012–2014 and the Sustainable Economic Development Plan 2012/13-2021/22,

*Noting also* the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena and, in that regard, the approval of the administering Power, in 2011, of the building of an airport on the island of Saint Helena,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the Territory's 2009 Constitution;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the Territory's socioeconomic development challenges, including unemployment, and limited transport and communications infrastructure;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena while resolving any emerging issues related to the construction of the airport;

## X

## Turks and Caicos Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[163] and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

*Recalling also* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

*Aware* of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, and acknowledging the Constitution agreed between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which entered into force in 2006,

*Noting* the decision of the administering Power to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands, covering the constitutional right to trial by jury, the ministerial Government and the House of Assembly, following the recommendations of an independent Commission of Inquiry and the ruling of the administering Power's Court of Appeal, and the subsequent presentation of a draft constitution for public consultation in 2011 and the introduction of a new constitution for the Territory,

*Acknowledging* the impact that the global economic slowdown and other relevant developments have had on tourism and related real estate development, the mainstays of the economy of the Territory,

1. *Notes with grave concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance, including through the introduction in 2011 of a new constitution and the holding of elections in November 2012, and sound financial management in the Territory;

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[163] A/AC.109/2012/9.

2. *Notes* the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for the restoration of a democratically elected territorial Government as a matter of urgency;

3. *Also notes* the extensive public consultations undertaken by the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Adviser and the continuing debate on constitutional and electoral reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;

4. *Stresses* the importance of having in place in the Territory a constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the territorial Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socioeconomic development across the Territory;

## XI

## United States Virgin Islands

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[164] and other relevant information,

*Aware* that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[165]

*Aware also* of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

*Cognizant* that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power, which in 2010 requested the Territory to consider its objections to the draft constitution,

*Aware* of the closing of the Hovensa plant in 2011 and the negative impact on manufacturing and the labour situation in the Territory,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands Fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the ongoing internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed territorial constitution in the United States Congress and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Expresses its concern* regarding the negative impact of the Hovensa plant closure;

5. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

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[164] A/AC.109/2012/8.

[165] United States Congress, Revised Organic Act, 1954.

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Also welcomes* the holding, for the first time at the level of heads of territorial Government, on 12 May 2011, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the British Virgin Islands.

## RESOLUTION 67/133

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/431, para. 25),[166] by a recorded vote of 174 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* France

### 67/133. Dissemination of information on decolonization

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012 relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[167]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 66/90 of 9 December 2011,

*Recognizing* the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Reiterating* the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

*Recognizing* the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[166] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[167] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1), chap. III.

*Recognizing also* the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Aware* of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and recalls with satisfaction the publication, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006, of the information leaflet entitled "What the UN Can Do to Assist Non-Self-Governing Territories", which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization in May 2009, and encourages continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end requests the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(*a*) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help to improve the exchange of information;

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*f*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/134

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/431, para. 25),[168] by a recorded vote of 175 to 3, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Belgium, France

### 67/134. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2012,[169]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 66/91 of 9 December 2011, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2011,

*Regretting* that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, have not been successful,

*Reiterating its conviction* of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

*Noting with satisfaction* the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Stressing* the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

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[168] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[169] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/67/23 and Corr.1).

*Noting with satisfaction* the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

*Noting* that the Pacific regional seminar was held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 65/119, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[170]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(*c*) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*d*) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

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[170] Resolution 217 A (III).

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(*h*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

8. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[171] updated as necessary, represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

16. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2012, including the programme of work envisaged for 2013;[169]

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

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[171] A/56/61, annex.

# IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

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## RESOLUTION 67/194

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/434, para. 20)[1]

### 67/194. Building connectivity through the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 64/186 of 21 December 2009,

*Recalling also* the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[2] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[3] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[4] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[5]

*Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6]

*Stressing* the need to reduce the digital divide and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, are available to all, and welcoming in this regard the Connect the Commonwealth of Independent States summit, held in Minsk on 26 and 27 November 2009, as a regional initiative aimed at mobilizing human, financial and technical resources to accelerate the implementation of the connectivity goals of the World Summit on the Information Society,

*Noting* that Governments, as well as the private sector, civil society and the United Nations and other international organizations, have an important role in bridging the digital divide for the benefit of all and in building an inclusive and people-centred information society,

*Noting also* that information and communications technologies are facilitating the flow of information between Governments and the public and that, in this regard, it is essential to work towards improved access to such technologies, especially broadband networks and services, and to bridge the digital divide, recognizing the contribution of international cooperation in this regard,

*Recognizing* that well-developed information and communications network infrastructures, such as information superhighways, act as one of the main technological enablers of digital opportunities, and noting in this regard the Regional Ministerial Meeting on the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway convened by the Government of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, held in Baku on 11 November 2008,

*Noting* the establishment in 2011 of the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway project secretariat, headquartered in Baku, comprising project operators nominated by participating Governments, and the work undertaken by the secretariat so far,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster economic growth, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, particularly developing countries, into the global economy;

2. *Also recognizes* the immense potential that building connectivity can have in contributing to social progress, including in empowering women and youth and promoting social integration and tolerance;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, China, Gabon, Georgia, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Morocco, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uzbekistan.

[2] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

[3] See resolution 59/220.

[4] See A/60/687.

[5] See resolution 60/252.

[6] Resolution 60/1.

3. *Stresses* the importance of strengthened and continued cooperation among all stakeholders to build and run information infrastructures in order to bridge the digital divide in the region, and encourages interested Member States to participate in the development of regional connectivity solutions;

4. *Invites* the international community, including Member States, international organizations, the private sector and civil society, to support efforts to improve global telecommunications connectivity, with a focus on countries with inadequate access to the international information and communications technologies backbone, by way of participation in such initiatives as the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway project;

5. *Recognizes* the need to build connectivity in the region to help to bridge the digital divide, and in this regard welcomes the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway project and the support provided thus far by all interested stakeholders;

6. *Also recognizes* the importance and potential of the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway project in supporting the improvement and diversification of telecommunications transit routes between Asia and Europe, and in this regard invites Member States to further support the project by encouraging, as appropriate, the participation of the public and private sectors;

7. *Takes note* of the proposal to establish a Eurasian connectivity alliance with the International Telecommunication Union aimed at highlighting synergies among Governments, the private sector, civil society, academia and international development institutions towards improving the development of regional telecommunications transit routes utilizing innovative and cost-effective working methods without recourse to additional resources.

## RESOLUTION 67/195

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/434, para. 20)[7]

### 67/195. Information and communications technologies for development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007, 63/202 of 19 December 2008, 64/187 of 21 December 2009, 65/141 of 20 December 2010 and 66/184 of 22 December 2011,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2008/3 of 18 July 2008, 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, 2010/2 of 19 July 2010 and 2011/16 of 26 July 2011 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/5 of 24 July 2012,

*Recalling further* the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[8] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[9] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[10] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[11]

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[12]

*Recalling also* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[13]

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[7] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[8] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

[9] See resolution 59/220.

[10] See A/60/687.

[11] See resolution 60/252.

[12] Resolution 60/1.

[13] Resolution 65/1.

*Recalling further* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[14]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[15]

*Noting* the organization of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2012 in Geneva from 14 to 18 May 2012,

*Noting also* the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, taking note of "Broadband targets for 2015", which sets targets and makes recommendations for making broadband policy universal and for increasing affordability and uptake in support of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and acknowledging the report of the Broadband Commission, entitled "The state of broadband 2012: achieving digital inclusion for all", which provides the first-ever country-by-country evaluation of those targets and the state of broadband deployment worldwide,

*Recognizing* the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of the progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development,

*Noting* the holding of the fifteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in Geneva from 21 to 25 May 2012,

*Noting also* that cultural diversity is the common heritage of humankind and that the information society should be founded on and stimulate respect for cultural identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, traditions and religions and foster dialogue among cultures and civilizations, and noting further that the promotion, affirmation and preservation of diverse cultural identities and languages, as reflected in relevant agreed United Nations documents, including the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[16] will further enrich the information society,

*Acknowledging* the positive trends in the global connectivity and affordability of information and communications technologies, in particular the steady increase in Internet access to one third of the world's population, the rapid diffusion of mobile telephony, the increased availability of multilingual content and Internet addresses and the advent of new services and applications, including m-health, mobile transactions, e-government, e-education, e-business and developmental services, which offer great potential for the development of the information society,

*Emphasizing*, however, that in spite of recent progress there remains an important digital divide, recognizing in this regard that only 24.4 per cent of the population in developing countries used the Internet in 2011, compared with 70.2 per cent in developed countries, and stressing the need to reduce the digital divide, including with regard to such issues as international interconnection charges for Internet use, and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, are available to all,

*Reaffirming* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies to promote the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, through sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development,

*Expressing concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis on the positive trends in the diffusion of information and communications technologies and the investment needed to ensure universal access to those technologies,

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[14] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[15] A/67/66-E/2012/49 and Add.1.

[16] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

*Expressing concern also* about the growing gap in broadband provision between developed and developing countries, as well as about the new dimensions that the digital divide has taken on,

*Recognizing* that the lack of capacity-building for the productive use of information and communications technologies needs to be addressed in order to overcome the digital divide,

*Recognizing also* that the number of Internet users is growing and that the digital divide is also changing in character from one based on whether access is available to one based on the quality of access, information and skills that users can obtain and the value they can derive from it, and recognizing in this regard that there is a need to prioritize the use of information and communications technologies through innovative approaches, including multi-stakeholder approaches, within national and regional development strategies,

*Reaffirming* paragraphs 4, 5 and 55 of the Declaration of Principles adopted in Geneva in 2003, and recognizing that freedom of expression and the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge are essential for the information society and beneficial to development,

*Conscious* of the challenges faced by States, in particular developing countries, in combating cybercrime, and emphasizing the need to reinforce technical assistance and capacity-building activities for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

*Acknowledging* that the Internet is a central element of the infrastructure of the information society and a global facility available to the public,

*Recognizing* that the international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of Governments, the private sector, civil society, academic and technical communities and international organizations, as stated in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,

*Recognizing also* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, including public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet, as well as its role in building partnerships among different stakeholders, including through national and regional initiatives, so as to help in addressing the various issues of Internet governance, while acknowledging the calls for improvement in its working methods,

*Recalling* its decision that the desirability of the continuation of the Internet Governance Forum will be considered again by Member States in the General Assembly in the context of a 10-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2015,

*Reiterating* the significance and urgency of the process towards enhanced cooperation in full consistency with the mandate provided in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society and the need for enhanced cooperation to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in respect of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet but not in respect of the day-to-day technical and operational matters that have no impact on those issues,

*Noting* the holding of the open consultations on enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, convened by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in Geneva on 18 May 2012,

*Reaffirming* that the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society related to Internet governance, namely, the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes, and recognizing that the two processes may be complementary,

*Reaffirming also* paragraphs 35 to 37 and 67 to 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,

*Welcoming* the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, in Vilnius in 2010, in Nairobi in 2011 and in Baku in 2012, *Welcoming*, in view of the existing gaps in information and communications technologies infrastructure, the Connect Africa summits held in Kigali in 2007 and in Cairo in 2008, the Connect the Commonwealth of Independent States summit held in Minsk in 2009, the meeting of Commonwealth countries held in Colombo in 2010, the first and second Digital Agenda Assemblies of the European Union, held in 2011 and 2012, the Connect Americas summit held in Panama in 2012, the Connect Arab States summit held in Qatar in 2012, the annual European Dialogue on Internet Governance, the Mesoamerican Information Highway, and the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway projects, which are regional initiatives aimed at mobilizing human, financial and technical resources to accelerate the implementation of the connectivity goals of the World Summit on the Information Society,

*Stressing* the importance of strengthened and continued cooperation among all stakeholders and international cooperation to build and run regional and global information and communications technology infrastructure in order to contribute to bridging the digital divide,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Also recognizes* the rapid growth in broadband access networks, especially in developed countries, and notes with concern the growing digital divide in the availability, affordability, quality of access and use of broadband between high-income countries and other regions, with the least developed countries and Africa, as a continent, lagging behind the rest of the world;

3. *Expresses concern* regarding the digital divide in access to information and communications technologies and broadband connectivity between countries at different levels of development, which affects many economically and socially relevant applications in such areas as government, business, health and education, and also expresses concern with regard to the special challenges faced in the area of broadband connectivity by developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries;

4. *Acknowledges* that a gender divide exists as part of the digital divide, and encourages all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to and use of information and communications technologies for their overall empowerment and benefit, and in this regard recalls the agreed conclusions of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women;[17]

5. *Stresses* that, for the majority of the poor, the development promise of science and technology, including information and communications technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizes the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communications technologies, to bridge the digital divide;

6. *Also stresses* the important role of Governments in the design of their national public policies and in the provision of public services responsive to national needs and priorities through, inter alia, the effective use of information and communications technologies, including on the basis of a multi-stakeholder approach, to support national development efforts;

7. *Recognizes* that, in addition to financing by the public sector, financing of information and communications technologies infrastructure by the private sector has come to play an important role in many countries and that domestic financing is being augmented by North-South flows and complemented by South-South cooperation, and also recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation can be useful tools for promoting the development of information and communications technologies;

8. *Also recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as insufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity and issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

9. *Further recognizes* the immense potential that information and communications technologies have in promoting the transfer of technologies in a wide spectrum of socioeconomic activity;

10. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva[8] and Tunis[10] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms in a joint effort and dialogue with developing countries, including the least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

11. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held by the end of 2015, as recognized in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and decides to consider the modalities for the review process by the end of 2013;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Tunisia, host of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union and other relevant international and regional organizations, in organizing annually the ICT 4 All Forum and technological exhibition as a platform within the framework of the follow-up to the Summit to promote a dynamic business environment for the information and communications technologies sector worldwide;

13. *Notes* the progress that has been made by United Nations entities in cooperation with national Governments, regional commissions and other stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, and encourages the use of those action lines for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

14. *Also notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional level, facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels;[15]

15. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates and strategic plans, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the importance of adequate resources in this regard;

16. *Recognizes* the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology, and in this regard encourages the United Nations development system to continue its effort to promote the use of information and communications technologies as a critical enabler of development and a catalyst for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

17. *Also recognizes* the role of the United Nations Group on the Information Society as an inter-agency mechanism of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination designed to coordinate United Nations implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

18. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum,[18] and requests the Secretary-General to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group, in particular on enhancing participation by developing countries;

19. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in all Internet Governance Forum meetings, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and all other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as in the preparatory meetings;

20. *Invites* the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish a working group on enhanced cooperation to examine the mandate of the World Summit on the Information Society regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, through seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders, and to make recommendations on how to fully implement this mandate; when convening the working group, the Chair should also take into consideration the meetings already scheduled on the calendar of the Commission, and the working group should report to the Commission at its seventeenth session, in 2014, as an input to the overall review of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

21. *Requests* the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to ensure that the working group on enhanced cooperation has balanced representation between Governments, from the five regional groups of the Commission, and invitees from all other stakeholders, namely, the private sector, civil society, technical and academic communities and intergovernmental and international organizations, drawn equally from developing and developed countries;

22. *Urges* the international community in this regard to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to support the review and assessment work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development regarding follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, including on activities of the United Nations system, in particular relevant specialized agencies, related to the overall 10-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for development".

## RESOLUTION 67/196

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/435/Add.1, para. 9)[19]

### 67/196. International trade and development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 63/203 of 19 December 2008 and 66/185 of 22 December 2011 on international trade and development,

*Noting* its resolutions 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005, 61/186 of 20 December 2006, 62/184 of 19 December 2007, 64/188 of 21 December 2009 and 65/142 of 20 December 2010 on international trade and development,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[20] as well as the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development[21] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[22] the 2005 World

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[19] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[20] Resolution 55/2.

[21] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[22] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations

Summit Outcome[23] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[24]

*Recalling also* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[25]

*Recalling further* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[26]

*Recalling* the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and its outcome documents,[27]

*Recalling also* the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Doha from 21 to 26 April 2012, and its outcome documents,[28]

*Recalling further* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[29]

*Reaffirming* the value of multilateralism to the global trading system and the commitment to achieving a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system that contributes to growth, sustainable development and employment generation in all sectors, and emphasizing that bilateral and regional trading arrangements should contribute and be complementary to the goals of the multilateral trading system,

*Reiterating* that development concerns form an integral part of the Doha Development Agenda, which places the needs and interests of all developing countries, especially least developed countries, at the heart of the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organization,[30]

*Reaffirming* that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, and noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism and the commitments to comprehensive negotiations aimed at substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme, the framework adopted by the General Council of the World Trade Organization on 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005,

*Recalling* the Marrakesh Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries,

*Recognizing* the importance of competition policy and legislation in order to enhance the international competitiveness of developing countries,

*Expressing deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase with significant downside risks, including the turbulence in global financial and commodity markets and widespread fiscal strains, that threaten the global economic recovery, and stressing the need to continue to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and the need for continuing efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system,

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[23] Resolution 60/1.

[24] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[25] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[26] Resolution 65/1.

[27] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

[28] See TD/500 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2.

[29] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Noting* that while some developing countries have been the main contributors to recent global economic growth, the economic crisis has reduced their capacity to withstand further shocks, recalling the commitments made to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth, and reaffirming the need to work cooperatively to meet development commitments to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board[31] and the report of the Secretary-General;[32]

2. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, and also reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to resist protectionist tendencies and to rectify any trade-distorting measures that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization rules, recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize flexibilities consistent with their World Trade Organization commitments and obligations;

4. *Expresses serious concern* at the lack of progress in the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations, reiterates the call for the necessary flexibility and political will in order to break the current impasse in the negotiations, and in this regard calls for a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and development-oriented outcome of the Doha Development Agenda multilateral trade negotiations, in keeping with the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration,[30] the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of the decisions of the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Geneva from 15 to 17 December 2011, including the decision to allow members of the World Trade Organization to provide preferential treatment to services and suppliers from the least developed countries;

6. *Acknowledges* that trade has an important role in ensuring the sustainable economic development of least developed countries and that the international trade architecture should continue to be supportive of and responsive to the special needs and priorities of least developed countries;

7. *Welcomes* the convening of the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, in Bali, Indonesia, to be held in the first week of December 2013;

8. *Reaffirms* the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization relating to the least developed countries,[30] and encourages developed countries and developing countries, declaring themselves in a position to do so, to take steps towards the goal of realizing the timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

9. *Emphasizes* the full, timely and effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020;[33]

10. *Reaffirms* the Marrakesh Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries;

11. *Stresses* the need to remove food export restrictions and extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial, humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme and to not impose them in the future;

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[31] A/67/15 (Parts I–V). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 15* (A/67/15).

[32] A/67/184.

[33] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7),

12. *Also stresses* the need to increase investment from all sources in agriculture and rural development, including through the provision of technical and financial assistance, as appropriate, to least developed and net food-importing developing countries, with a view to increasing their agricultural productivity and infrastructure;

13. *Recognizes* the particular challenges that may be faced by small, vulnerable economies to fully benefit from the multilateral trading system in a manner commensurate with their special circumstances, and in this regard encourages progress in the implementation of the World Trade Organization work programme on small economies, as mandated in the 2001 Doha Ministerial Declaration and the 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, which supports their efforts towards sustainable development;

14. *Stresses* the need to identify and develop strategies to expand trade opportunities for women producers and facilitate the active participation of women in national, regional and global trade decision-making structures and processes, thereby ensuring that women- and men-owned businesses and farms have equal opportunities in markets;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment to address the special development needs of and the challenges faced by landlocked developing countries, and calls for the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[34] in accordance with the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action;[35]

16. *Expresses concern* about the adoption of unilateral actions that are not consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, harm the exports of all countries, in particular those of developing countries, and have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement and further enhancement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

17. *Notes* the holding in Geneva on 18 and 19 July 2011 of the Third Global Review of Aid for Trade, aimed at reviewing progress achieved and identifying additional measures needed to support developing and least developed countries in building their supply and export capacities, and stresses the need to implement the aid-for-trade commitments with sufficient focus on results and impact;

18. *Recognizes* that South-South trade should be strengthened, notes that enhanced market access between developing countries can play a positive role in stimulating South-South trade, and in this regard, inter alia, takes note of the conclusion of the third round of the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries, by the adoption, on 15 December 2010, of the São Paulo Round Protocol;

19. *Reiterates* the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, invites the Conference to continue working to enhance its contribution in its three major pillars, namely, consensus-building, research and policy analysis, and technical assistance, and calls upon the international community to work towards the strengthening of the Conference;

20. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue, in accordance with its mandate, to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and of trends in international trade from a development perspective, and in particular to analyse issues of concern to developing countries, placing greater emphasis on practical solutions, to undertake policy analysis, including from a gender perspective, to work with all relevant stakeholders and to support developing countries in building productive national capacities and international competitiveness, including through technical assistance activities;

21. *Welcomes* the convening of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Doha on the theme "Development-centred globalization: towards inclusive and sustainable growth and development", and recalls its outcomes;[28]

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[34] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

22. *Recognizes* the role of the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and developments in the multilateral trading system, including their impact on women and men, under the sub-item entitled "International trade and development" of the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions";

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the Director-General of the World Trade Organization.

## RESOLUTION 67/197

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/435/Add.2, para. 12)[36]

### 67/197. International financial system and development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, both entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005, 61/187 of 20 December 2006, 62/185 of 19 December 2007, 63/205 of 19 December 2008, 64/190 of 21 December 2009, 65/143 of 20 December 2010 and 66/187 of 22 December 2011,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[37] and its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[38] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[39] Agenda 21,[40] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[41] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[42]

*Recalling further* the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,[43]

*Recalling* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[44]

*Recalling also* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[45]

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[36] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[37] Resolution 55/2.

[38] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[39] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[40] Ibid., annex II.

[41] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[42] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[43] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[44] Resolution 63/303, annex.

*Recalling further* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[46]

*Recognizing* the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, and taking note of its progress report,[47]

*Recalling* the high-level thematic debate of 17 and 18 May 2012 on the state of the world economy and finance and its impact on development, convened by the President of the General Assembly to contribute to the consultations among Member States regarding the follow-up process of the outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

*Expressing deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, cognizant that the global economy, notwithstanding significant efforts, remains in a challenging phase with elevated downside risks, including turbulence in global financial and commodity markets, high unemployment and indebtedness in several countries and widespread fiscal strains, which threaten the global economic recovery and reflect limited progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand, and stressing the need to continue to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and the need for continuing efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system,

*Noting* that, while some developing countries have been the main contributors to recent global economic growth, the economic crisis has reduced their capacity to withstand further shocks, recalling the commitments made to support strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth, and reaffirming the need to work cooperatively to meet development commitments to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

*Recalling* the commitment to work in solidarity on a coordinated and comprehensive global response to the ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis on development and to take actions aimed at, inter alia, restoring confidence, sustaining economic growth and creating full and productive employment and decent work for all,

*Reaffirming* the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in its Charter, including to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends, and reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

*Recognizing* that the international financial system should support sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, sustainable development, job creation and efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger in developing countries, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development,

*Recalling* the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[48] and recognizing in this context that the international financial institutions should be supportive, in accordance with their mandates, of the special needs and priorities of the least developed countries,

*Stressing* the importance of commitment to ensuring sound domestic financial sectors, which make a vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[49]

2. *Recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, and reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national development efforts to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

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[46] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[47] A/64/884.

[48] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[49] A/67/187.

3. *Stresses* the need to act decisively to tackle the challenges confronting the global economy in order to ensure balanced, sustainable, inclusive and equitable global growth with full and productive employment and quality jobs, and also stresses the need for significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources and the effective use of financing in order to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all;

4. *Notes* the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the financial and economic crisis, and recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote the economic recovery, to address turbulence in global financial and commodity markets, to tackle high unemployment and indebtedness in several countries, as well as widespread fiscal strains, to reinforce the banking sector, including by increasing its transparency and accountability, to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system;

5. *Also notes* the initiative of the Government of Kazakhstan to host an international conference in Astana from 22 to 24 May 2013, entitled "World Anti-Crisis Conference: effective countermeasures to global uncertainty and economic downturns";

6. *Recognizes* the need for continued and enhanced coordination of financial and economic policies at the international level to tackle pressing financial and economic challenges;

7. *Notes* that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, provides a unique and key forum for discussing international economic issues and their impact on development, and reaffirms that the United Nations is well positioned to participate in various reform processes aimed at improving and strengthening the effective functioning of the international financial system and architecture, while recognizing that the United Nations and the international financial institutions have complementary mandates which make the coordination of their actions crucial;

8. *Recalls*, in this regard, the resolve to strengthen the coordination of the United Nations system and multilateral financial, trade and development institutions so as to support economic growth, poverty eradication, job creation and sustainable development worldwide, on the basis of a clear understanding of and respect for their mandates and governance structures;

9. *Also recalls* that countries must have the flexibility necessary to implement countercyclical measures and to pursue tailored and targeted responses to the crisis, and calls for conditionalities to be streamlined to ensure that they are timely, tailored and targeted and that they support developing countries in the face of financial, economic and development challenges;

10. *Notes*, in this regard, the increase in resources and the improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and the creation of more flexible instruments, such as a precautionary and liquidity line, a flexible credit line and a rapid financing instrument, while also noting that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities;

11. *Urges*, in this regard, the multilateral development banks to continue to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries;

12. *Recognizes* the role of private capital flows in mobilizing financing for development, stresses the challenges posed by excessive short-term capital inflows to many developing countries, notes that the design and implementation of capital flow management measures to address those challenges, such as macroeconomic policies, macroprudential measures and other forms of capital account regulations, need to take into account the specific circumstances of individual countries, and requests the Secretary-General to consider the benefits and disadvantages of these measures in preparing his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Reaffirms* the importance of broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, notes in this regard the important steps taken on the reform of the governance structures, quotas and voting rights of the Bretton Woods institutions, which go in the direction of better reflecting current realities and enhancing the voice, the participation and the voting rights of developing countries, and recognizes the importance of continuing such reform processes in an ambitious and expeditious manner in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions;

14. *Notes*, in this regard, the decisions taken by the World Bank Group on voice and participation and further institutional reforms to meet new challenges, and the addition of the twenty-fifth Chair to the Boards of Executive Directors of the World Bank Group, and looks forward to progress in its institutional reforms;

15. *Calls for* the swift implementation of the 2010 quota and governance reform of the International Monetary Fund, and stresses the importance of the comprehensive review of the International Monetary Fund quota formula, to be completed by January 2013;

16. *Recognizes* the importance of an open, transparent and merit-based process for selecting the heads of the international financial institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions;

17. *Emphasizes* the need for more effective government involvement in order to ensure an appropriate regulation of the market, which promotes the public interest, and recognizes in this regard the need to better regulate financial markets to promote economic stability and sustained, equitable and inclusive growth;

18. *Recognizes* the role of special drawing rights as an international reserve asset, acknowledges that special drawing rights allocations helped to supplement international reserves in response to the world financial and economic crisis, thus contributing to the stability of the international financial system and global economic resilience, also recognizes the need to continue regular reviews of the role of special drawing rights, including with reference to their potential role in the international reserve system, and requests the Secretary-General to take this into account while preparing his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Reiterates* that effective, inclusive multilateral surveillance should be at the centre of crisis prevention efforts, and stresses the need to continue strengthening surveillance of the financial policies of countries;

20. *Stresses*, in this regard, the need to strengthen intergovernmental and independent surveillance of national financial policies and their impact on international interest rates, exchange rates and capital flows;

21. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to continue to enhance the transparency of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments made by the private sector should maximize the use of strict, objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on the issue, including its potential impact on the development prospects of developing countries;

22. *Calls upon* the multilateral, regional and subregional development banks and development funds to continue to play a vital role in serving the development needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through coordinated action, as appropriate, stresses that strengthened regional development banks and subregional financial institutions can add flexible financial support to national and regional development efforts, thus enhancing their ownership and overall efficiency, welcomes in this regard recent capital increases at multilateral and regional development banks, and, in addition, encourages efforts to ensure that subregional development banks are adequately funded;

23. *Encourages* enhanced regional and subregional cooperation, including through regional and subregional development banks, commercial and reserve currency arrangements and other regional and subregional initiatives;

24. *Stresses* the need to continuously improve standards of corporate and public sector governance, including those related to accounting, auditing and measures to ensure transparency, noting the disruptive effects of inadequate policies;

25. *Decides* to convene at its sixty-eighth session a separate meeting of the Second Committee under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions" to discuss actions in response to the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development and prospects for restoring confidence and economic growth, as a further contribution to the follow-up to the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be prepared in cooperation with the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant stakeholders;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development".

## RESOLUTION 67/198

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/435/Add.3, para. 9)[50]

### 67/198. External debt sustainability and development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010 and 66/189 of 22 December 2011,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000,[51] and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[52]

*Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[53]

*Recalling* the International Conference on Financing for Development and its outcome document[54] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[55]

*Recalling also* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[56]

*Recalling further* the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the Istanbul Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[57]

*Recalling* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[58]

*Recalling also* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

*Recalling further* its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

*Noting with appreciation* the special event of the Second Committee, held on 25 October 2012, on the theme "Sovereign debt crises and restructurings: lessons learned and proposals for debt resolution mechanisms",[59]

*Emphasizing* that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlining the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve national and international development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and acknowledging that debt crises tend to be costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investment, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting in particular the poor and vulnerable,

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[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[51] Resolution 55/2.

[52] Resolution 65/1.

[53] Resolution 60/1.

[54] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[55] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[56] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[57] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

[58] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[59] The sub-themes of the special event of the Second Committee were as follows: (a) "Are there missing links in the international financial architecture for debt restructuring?"; (b) "Lessons from past debt crises"; and (c) "Features of a possible debt resolution mechanism".

*Reaffirming* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts, including to achieve development goals and to maintain debt sustainability, should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

*Reaffirming also* that multilateral institutions, including entities within the United Nations system and other relevant organizations, should continue to play an important role, given their respective mandates, in assisting countries in achieving and maintaining debt sustainability,

*Reiterating* that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, and emphasizing that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks, such as those derived from the world financial and economic crisis, should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses,

*Expressing deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase with significant downside risks, including turbulence in global financial and commodity markets and widespread fiscal strains, which threaten the global economic recovery, stressing the need to continue to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and the need for continuing efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system, and recognizing that any deepening of the ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis threatens debt sustainability in developing countries,

*Recognizing* the importance of efforts and cooperation undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in response to the challenges posed by the world financial and economic crisis, and acknowledging that the impacts of the crisis on development continue, entail the possibility of undermining the progress made towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries, through, inter alia, the consequences on the real economy and government revenue and the need to increase borrowing to mitigate the negative impacts of the crisis,

*Recognizing also* the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention and management tools for mitigating the impact of the world financial and economic crisis on developing countries,

*Recognizing further* the role of private capital flows in mobilizing financing for development, stressing the challenges posed by excessive short-term capital inflows to many developing countries, including to their debt sustainability, and encouraging further review of the benefits and disadvantages of the macroprudential measures available to mitigate the impact of volatile capital flows,

*Expressing concern* that a number of low- and middle-income countries face challenges in servicing their debt,

*Expressing deep concern* that, in spite of international efforts, many least developed countries struggle with high debt burdens and are classified, in accordance with the debt sustainability assessments, as being in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress,

*Noting with appreciation* that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and bilateral donors have provided substantial debt relief to 34 countries that have reached the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which has provided needed debt relief and enabled them to reallocate resources to investments in social services, while expressing concern that some post-completion point countries remain classified as being at high risk of debt distress and need to avoid rebuilding unsustainable debt burdens,

*Convinced* that enhanced market access for goods and services of export interest to developing countries contributes significantly to debt sustainability in those countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[60]

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[60] A/67/174.

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries to promote their economic growth and development;

3. *Stresses* the importance of responsible lending and borrowing, emphasizes that creditors and debtors must share responsibility for preventing unsustainable debt situations, and encourages Member States, the Bretton Woods institutions, the regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders to continue the ongoing discussions on this issue, inter alia, within the framework of the initiative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to promote responsible sovereign lending and borrowing;

4. *Recognizes* the role played by the Debt Sustainability Framework for Low-Income Countries, jointly developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to guide borrowing and lending decisions, notes the recent review of the Framework, and encourages the continued periodic review of the Framework in an open and transparent manner and with the full engagement of borrower and creditor Governments;

5. *Reiterates* that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgements about a country's debt sustainability, and, in this regard, while acknowledging the need to use transparent and comparable indicators, invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in their assessment of debt sustainability, to continue to take into account a country's structural weaknesses and the fundamental changes caused by, inter alia, natural disasters, conflicts and changes in global growth prospects or in the terms of trade, especially for commodity-dependent developing countries, as well as by the impact of developments on financial markets, and to provide information on this issue to Member States, using the appropriate frameworks;

6. *Recognizes* that the long-term sustainability of debt depends on, inter alia, economic growth, mobilization of national and international resources, export prospects of debtor countries, responsible debt management, sound macroeconomic policies, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems, and hence on the creation of an enabling international environment that is conducive to development;

7. *Also recognizes* the enormity and the multidimensional nature of the world financial and economic crisis, which caused a sharp deterioration of the debt ratios in several developing countries, stresses the need to continue to assist developing countries in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, notes in this regard the additional resources made available during and since the crisis through the International Monetary Fund and the multilateral development banks, and calls for the continued provision of concessional and grant-based financing to low-income countries to enable them to respond to the consequences of the crisis;

8. *Further recognizes* the roles of the United Nations and the international financial institutions in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustained, inclusive and equitable growth, sustainable development and the external debt sustainability of developing countries, including through continued monitoring of global financial flows and their implications in this regard;

9. *Emphasizes* the need for coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, recalls in this regard the improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and the creation of more flexible instruments, such as a precautionary and liquidity line, while noting that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities, and urges the multilateral development banks to continue to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries;

10. *Notes* the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to low-income countries in the form of zero-interest payments on financing from concessional lending facilities until the end of 2012, and invites the Fund to consider extending its concessional loan facilities for low-income countries for the post-2012 period;

11. *Also notes* that countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help mitigate the adverse impacts of the crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

12. *Further notes* the progress made under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, while expressing concern that some countries have yet to reach decision or completion points, calls for the full and timely implementation of those Initiatives and for continued support to the

remaining eligible countries in completing the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative process, and encourages all parties, both creditors and debtors, to fulfil their commitments as rapidly as possible in order to complete the debt relief process;

13. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts of the heavily indebted poor countries, calls upon them to continue to strengthen their national policies to promote economic growth and poverty eradication through, inter alia, the maintenance of a national environment conducive to private-sector development, a stable macroeconomic framework and transparent and accountable systems of public finance, and invites the international financing institutions and the donor community to continue to provide adequate and sufficiently concessional financing;

14. *Encourages* the international financial institutions to review the implementation and the impact of debt relief initiatives to better understand why some countries still face persisting debt problems after completion of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and calls for creditors and debtors to work together, inter alia, through the design of responses to address them;

15. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy its full benefits unless all creditors, both public and private, contribute their fair share and become involved in the international debt resolution mechanisms to ensure the debt sustainability of those countries, and invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including through providing comparable treatment to the extent possible to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors;

16. *Stresses* that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, economic development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards achieving those objectives, including in the context of the post-2015 development agenda, according to their national priorities and strategies;

17. *Encourages* donor countries to take steps to ensure that resources provided for debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative do not detract from official development assistance resources intended to be available for developing countries;

18. *Notes with concern* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that are not part of the existing debt relief initiatives may have large debt burdens that may create constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, indicating a need to consider debt relief initiatives for those countries, as appropriate, and encourages the consideration of medium- and long-term sustainability as well as new approaches to deal with bilateral and private non-Paris Club debt;

19. *Encourages* the Paris Club, in dealing with the debt of low- and middle-income debtor countries that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, to take into account their medium-term debt sustainability in addition to their financing gaps, and notes with appreciation the Evian approach of the Paris Club in providing different terms of debt relief in order to respond to the specific needs of debtor countries while preserving debt cancellation for heavily indebted poor countries;

20. *Stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of the least developed countries and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, including through the cancellation of the multilateral and bilateral debt owed by least developed countries to creditors, both public and private;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts of and calls upon the international community to continue to provide flexibility, and stresses the need to sustain those efforts in helping post-conflict developing countries, especially those that are heavily indebted and poor, to achieve initial reconstruction for economic and social development;

22. *Also welcomes* the efforts of and invites creditors to provide flexibility to developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their debt concerns, while taking into account their specific situations and needs;

23. *Calls for* the consideration of additional measures and initiatives aimed at ensuring long-term debt sustainability through increased grant-based and other forms of concessional financing, the cancellation of

100 per cent of the eligible official multilateral and bilateral debt of heavily indebted poor countries and, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, significant debt relief or restructuring for developing countries with an unsustainable debt burden that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative;

24. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their efforts to increase bilateral grants to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and recognizes the need for countries to be able to promote employment and productive investment and to invest in, inter alia, health and education while maintaining debt sustainability;

25. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encourages the private sector to cooperate in this regard, and invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments and innovative mechanisms such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Millennium Development Goal projects, as well as debt indexation instruments;

26. *Also calls for* the consideration of enhanced approaches to sovereign debt restructuring and debt resolution mechanisms, based on existing frameworks and principles, with the broad participation of creditors and debtors, the comparable treatment of all creditors and an important role for the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant organizations within the United Nations system, and in this regard calls upon all countries to promote and contribute to the discussions, within the United Nations and other appropriate forums, on the need for and feasibility of a more structured framework for international cooperation in this area;

27. *Encourages* all relevant entities within the United Nations system to continue the study and examination of the need for and feasibility of a sovereign debt restructuring and debt resolution mechanism, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders;

28. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to hold a one-day meeting in 2013, in conjunction with its special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to consider lessons learned from debt crises and the ongoing work on sovereign debt restructuring and debt resolution mechanisms, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, and also invites the President of the Economic and Social Council to prepare a summary of the meeting;

29. *Notes* the changing composition of the sovereign debt of some countries, which has shifted increasingly from official to commercial borrowing and from external to national public debt, although for most low-income countries external finance is still largely official, also notes that the levels of national debt and the significantly increased number of creditors, both official and private, could create other challenges for macroeconomic management and public debt sustainability, and stresses the need to address the implications of these changes, including through improved data collection and analysis;

30. *Recognizes* concerns about vulture fund litigation and that some debtor countries may experience difficulties in obtaining comparable treatment from non-Paris Club creditors, as required by the standard clause included in Paris Club agreements, and encourages the continued provision by the relevant institutions of mechanisms and legal assistance to debtor countries to solve litigation issues;

31. *Stresses* the need to increase information-sharing, transparency and the use of objective criteria in the construction and evaluation of debt scenarios, including an assessment of national public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of development goals, recognizes that credit-rating agencies play a significant role in the provision of information, including the assessment of corporate and sovereign risks, reiterates in this regard the invitation addressed to the President of the General Assembly to convene a thematic debate on the role of credit-rating agencies in the international financial system, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on this issue when preparing his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

32. *Invites* the international community to continue efforts to increase support, including financial and technical assistance, for institutional capacity-building in developing countries to enhance sustainable debt management as an integral part of national development strategies, including by promoting transparent and accountable debt management systems and negotiation and renegotiation capacities and through supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors so that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

33. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue and intensify cooperation in respect of capacity-building activities in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability;

34. *Encourages* further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers;

35. *Acknowledges* that timely and comprehensive data on the level and composition of debt are a condition necessary for, inter alia, building early warning systems aimed at limiting the impact of debt crises, calls for debtor and creditor countries to intensify their efforts to collect data, and calls for donors to consider increasing their support for technical cooperation programmes aimed at increasing the statistical capacity of developing countries in that regard;

36. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in the report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt situation of developing countries and, as an annex, the summary of the one-day meeting organized by the Economic and Social Council;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development".

## RESOLUTION 67/199

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/436, para. 13)[61]

### 67/199. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and its resolutions 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, 57/250, 57/272 and 57/273 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 58/230 of 23 December 2003, 59/225 of 22 December 2004, 60/188 of 22 December 2005, 61/191 of 20 December 2006, 62/187 of 19 December 2007, 63/239 of 24 December 2008, 64/193 of 21 December 2009, 65/145 and 65/146 of 20 December 2010 and 66/191 of 22 December 2011, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/34 of 26 July 2002, 2003/47 of 24 July 2003, 2004/64 of 16 September 2004, 2006/45 of 28 July 2006, 2007/30 of 27 July 2007, 2008/14 of 24 July 2008, 2009/30 of 31 July 2009, 2010/26 of 23 July 2010, 2011/38 of 28 July 2011 and 2012/31 of 27 July 2012,

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[62]

*Recalling further* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[63]

*Recalling* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[64]

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[61] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[62] Resolution 60/1.

[63] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[64] Resolution 65/1.

*Recalling also* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[65]

*Taking note* of the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the fifth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, held in New York on 7 and 8 December 2011,[66]

*Taking note also* of the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council on the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in New York on 12 and 13 March 2012,[67]

*Taking note further* of the summary on the special event on the financing of social development, held on 3 February 2012 during the fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development,

*Noting* the special event on innovative mechanisms of financing for development, held on 12 July 2012 during the substantive session of 2012 of the Economic and Social Council,

*Noting also* the ongoing work on innovative sources of financing for development, including in various forums such as the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[68] modalities of the financing for development follow-up process[69] and innovative mechanisms of financing for development,[70]

*Taking note also* of the *World Economic and Social Survey 2012: In Search of New Development Finance*,[71] released in July 2012 by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat,

*Expressing deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis, particularly on development, cognizant that the global economy, notwithstanding significant efforts, remains in a challenging phase with elevated downside risks, including turbulence in global financial and commodity markets, high unemployment and indebtedness in several countries and widespread fiscal strains, which threaten the global economic recovery and reflect limited progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand, and stressing the need to continue to address the systemic fragilities and imbalances and the need for continued efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system,

*Reaffirming* the recognition, as contained in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, of the need for significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources and the effective use of financing, in order to give strong support to developing countries in their efforts to promote sustainable development, including through actions undertaken in accordance with the outcome document of the Conference and for achieving sustainable development goals,

*Noting* the special event of the Second Committee, held on 25 October 2012, on the theme "Sovereign debt crises and restructurings: lessons learned and proposals for debt resolution mechanisms",

1. *Reaffirms* the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[72] in its entirety, its integrity and its holistic approach, and recalls the resolve to take concrete action to implement the Monterrey Consensus and to address the challenges of financing for development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

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[65] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[66] A/66/678.

[67] A/67/81-E/2012/62.

[68] A/67/339.

[69] A/67/353.

[70] A/66/334.

[71] See E/2012/50.

[72] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

2. *Also reaffirms* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizes that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to advance and strengthen the global partnership for development as the centrepiece of cooperation in the years ahead, as reaffirmed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[73] the Monterrey Consensus, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[74] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[62] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[75] the outcome document of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[63] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals",[64] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want";[65]

4. *Recalls* the importance of the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development, as spelled out in the Monterrey Consensus;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the implementation of the commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law;

6. *Also reaffirms* that gender equality and women's empowerment are essential to achieve equitable and effective development and sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, and reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming in the formulation and implementation of development policies, including financing for development policies, and for dedicated resources;

7. *Recognizes* that the mobilization of financial resources for development and the effective use of all of those resources are central to the global partnership for development, including in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and also recognizes that the mobilization of national and international resources and an enabling national and international environment are key drivers for development;

8. *Also recognizes* that sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth contributes to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including the eradication of poverty and hunger;

9. *Recalls* the resolve of Member States to enhance and strengthen domestic resource mobilization and fiscal space, including, where appropriate, through modernized tax systems, more efficient tax collection, the broadening of the tax base and the effective combating of tax evasion and capital flight, and reiterates that, while each country is responsible for its tax system, it is important to support national efforts in these areas by strengthening technical assistance and enhancing international cooperation and participation in addressing international tax matters;

10. *Expresses deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on development, including on the capacity of developing countries to mobilize resources for development, recognizes that there is a need to promote the recovery, and acknowledges that an effective response to the impacts of the crisis requires timely implementation of all development commitments, including existing aid commitments;

11. *Recalls* that the ongoing fight against corruption at all levels is a priority, reaffirms the need to take urgent and decisive steps to continue to combat corruption in all its manifestations in order to reduce obstacles to effective resource mobilization and allocation and to prevent the diversion of resources away from activities that are vital for development, recalls that this requires strong institutions at all levels, including, in particular, effective legal

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[73] Resolution 55/2.

[74] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[75] Resolution 63/239, annex.

and judicial systems and enhanced transparency, recognizes the efforts and achievements of developing countries in this regard, notes the increased commitment of States that have already ratified or acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[76] and in this regard urges all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention;

12. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing measures to curtail illicit financial flows at all levels, enhancing disclosure practices and promoting transparency in financial information, and in this regard notes that strengthening national and multinational efforts to address this issue is crucial, including through support and technical assistance to developing countries to enhance their capacities;

13. *Emphasizes* the need for more effective government involvement in order to ensure appropriate regulation of the market, which promotes the public interest, and in this regard recognizes the need to better regulate financial markets and to promote economic stability and sustained, equitable and inclusive growth;

14. *Also emphasizes* the need to pursue, at the national level and in a manner consistent with national laws, appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks through which to encourage public and private initiatives, including at the local level, and to foster a dynamic and well-functioning business sector, while improving income growth and distribution, raising productivity, advancing women's empowerment and protecting labour rights and the environment, and reiterates the importance of ensuring that the benefits of growth reach all people by empowering individuals and communities;

15. *Notes* that foreign direct investment is a major source of financing for development, and in this regard calls upon developed countries to continue to devise source-country measures to encourage and facilitate the flow of foreign direct investment, inter alia, through the provision of export credits and other lending instruments, risk guarantees and business development services; calls upon developing countries to continue their efforts to create a national environment conducive to attracting investments by, inter alia, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights; and stresses the importance of enhancing efforts to mobilize investment from all sources in human resources and physical, environmental, institutional and social infrastructure;

16. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, and also reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

17. *Emphasizes* the need to resist protectionist tendencies and to rectify any trade-distorting measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize flexibilities consistent with their World Trade Organization commitments and obligations;

18. *Expresses serious concern* at the lack of progress in the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations, reiterates the call for the necessary flexibility and political will to break the current impasse in the negotiations, and in this regard calls for a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and development-oriented outcome of the Doha Development Agenda multilateral trade negotiations, in keeping with the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration,[77] the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005;

19. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 as well as the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

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[76] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[77] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

20. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, reiterates that official development assistance can play a catalytic role in assisting developing countries in removing constraints on sustained, inclusive and equitable growth by, inter alia, enhancing social, institutional and physical infrastructure, promoting foreign direct investment, trade and technological innovations, improving health and education, fostering gender equality, preserving the environment and eradicating poverty, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

21. *Also stresses* the need to strengthen and support South-South cooperation, while stressing further that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation, and calls for the effective implementation of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Nairobi from 1 to 3 December 2009;[78]

22. *Considers* that innovative mechanisms of financing can make a positive contribution towards assisting developing countries in mobilizing additional resources for financing for development on a voluntary basis and that such financing should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing, and, while highlighting the considerable progress on innovative sources of financing for development achieved to date, stresses the importance of scaling up present initiatives and developing new mechanisms, as appropriate;

23. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries in order to promote their economic growth and development;

24. *Also emphasizes* that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlining in this regard the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and acknowledges that sovereign debt crises tend to be costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investments, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting, in particular, the poor and vulnerable;

25. *Stresses* that the financial and economic crisis has highlighted the need for reform as well as added new impetus to ongoing international discussions on the reform of the international financial system and architecture, including on issues related to mandate, scope, governance, responsiveness and development orientation, as appropriate, and in this regard encourages continued open, inclusive and transparent dialogue;

26. *Notes* the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the financial and economic crisis in order to ensure a full return to growth with quality jobs, to reform and strengthen financial systems and to create strong, sustainable and balanced global growth;

27. *Recognizes* the need to continue to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems and the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness as complements to national development efforts to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

28. *Reaffirms* the importance of broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, takes note in this regard of recent important decisions on the reform of the governance structures, quotas and voting rights of the Bretton Woods institutions, better reflecting current realities and enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries, and reiterates the importance of the reform of the governance of those institutions for delivering more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions;

29. *Also reaffirms* that the United Nations funds and programmes and the regional commissions, and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates, have an important role to play in advancing development and protecting development gains, in accordance with national strategies and priorities, including progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and further reaffirms its determination to continue to take steps for a strong, well-coordinated, coherent, effective and efficient United Nations system in support of the Goals;

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[78] Resolution 64/222, annex.

30. *Further reaffirms* the need to further intensify the engagement of regional commissions in the financing for development follow-up process, including through the provision of technical advice and analyses to be made available to Member States;

31. *Reiterates* the importance of ensuring a strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process for carrying out the financing for development follow-up;

32. *Recalls* paragraphs 255 to 257 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and in this regard stresses the need to reinforce coherence and coordination and to avoid duplication of efforts with regard to the financing for development follow-up process;

33. *Decides* to hold open, transparent and inclusive consultations to review and explore the modalities of the financing for development process, including possible arrangements to strengthen the process, as well as options for bringing together the various processes covering development financing in an integrated manner, taking into account the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on modalities of the financing for development follow-up process;[69]

34. *Recalls* its decision, in accordance with paragraph 90 of the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, to consider the need to hold a follow-up financing for development conference by 2013, and also recalls its decision to hold informal consultations with a view to taking a final decision on the need for such a conference by 2013;

35. *Decides* to hold the sixth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development in the second half of 2013 at United Nations Headquarters, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work for that event, based on the organizational modalities of the fifth High-level Dialogue, to be submitted to the General Assembly before the end of its sixty-seventh session;

36. *Recognizes* the work of the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, and encourages the Office, in collaboration with experts from the public and private sectors, academia and civil society, to continue its work in accordance with its mandate;

37. *Reiterates its appeal* to Member States and other potential donors to consider contributing generously to the Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, which would facilitate the implementation of a strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process for carrying out the financing for development follow-up;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference", and requests the Secretary-General to submit, under the item, an annual analytical assessment of the status of implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, and of the present resolution, which is to be prepared in full collaboration with the major institutional stakeholders.

## RESOLUTION 67/200

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437, para. 28)[79]

### 67/200. International Day of Forests

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 61/193 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Forests, 2011,

*Noting* the useful contribution of national, regional and international actions during the International Year to raising awareness at all levels in order to strengthen the sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and trees outside forests for the benefit of current and future generations,

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[79] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

*Considering* that there is currently no globally recognized date for commemorating, carrying out activities on and raising awareness of forests and sustainable forest management beyond the International Year,

*Recognizing* the many existing regional, national and subnational days and international events across the globe that celebrate and honour all types of forests and trees outside forests,

*Taking note* of the report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on its thirty-seventh session,[80] and recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2011/250 of 27 July 2011,

*Reaffirming* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006,

*Noting* that the States members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Organization, held from 6 to 25 November 1971, supported the establishment of World Forestry Day on 21 March of each year,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 21 March of each year the International Day of Forests, to be observed starting in 2013, in order to celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests and of trees outside forests;

2. *Invites* all Member States to devote the International Day of Forests, as appropriate in the national context, to presenting and promoting concrete activities with regard to all types of forests and trees outside forests;

3. *Encourages* all Member States to organize activities related to all types of forests and trees outside forests, such as tree planting campaigns, at the time most appropriate to each State;

4. *Requests* the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of the International Day of Forests, in collaboration with Governments, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and international, regional and subregional organizations and processes as well as relevant major groups, stresses that the costs of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions for this specific purpose, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventieth session, a focused and concise report on activities resulting from the implementation of the present resolution which elaborates, inter alia, on the evaluation of the International Day of Forests.

## RESOLUTION 67/201

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437, para. 28),[81] by a recorded vote of 172 to 9, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste,

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[80] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2011/REP.

[81] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, South Sudan, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Colombia, Panama, Tonga, Vanuatu

### 67/201. Oil slick on Lebanese shores

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010 and 66/192 of 22 December 2011 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

*Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[82] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

*Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

*Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[83] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[84]

*Noting with great concern* the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195, 65/147 and 66/192,

*Noting* that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

*Recalling* that, in paragraph 4 of its resolution 66/192, it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the Assembly has yet to be implemented,

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

*Welcoming* the assessment made by the Secretary-General of the value of the United Nations Compensation Commission in handling claims for compensation for environmental damage resulting from the unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq, and the conclusion reached that certain cases of claims reviewed by the applicable panel established by the Commission may be relevant to a case such as the present oil slick, providing useful guidance in measuring and quantifying the damage sustained and in determining the amount of compensation payable in respect of it, while keeping in mind that the Commission does not have a potential role to play in securing compensation for the present oil slick,

*Noting again with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

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[82] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[83] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[84] Ibid., annex II.

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the Trust Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 66/192 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;[85]

2. *Reiterates*, for the seventh consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese Jiyeh electric power plant, for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give further consideration to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assessment made by the Secretary-General of the value of the United Nations Compensation Commission, and takes note of his conclusion that certain cases of claims reviewed by the F4 Panel established by the Commission may be relevant to a case such as the present oil slick, providing useful guidance in measuring and quantifying the damage sustained and in determining the amount of compensation payable in respect of it;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, capitalizing on the useful guidance provided by certain cases of claims reviewed by the F4 Panel, to consider taking appropriate measures, within existing resources and in consultation with the relevant United Nations agencies, to measure and quantify environmental damage resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyeh electric power plant;

8. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

9. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyeh electric power plant;

10. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue

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[85] A/67/341.

their support for Lebanon in this matter, in particular for rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast and in the broader recovery efforts, and stated that such international effort should be intensified, since Lebanon is still engaged in the treatment of wastes and the monitoring of recovery, and reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance, in order to ensure that the Trust Fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

11. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

## RESOLUTION 67/202

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437, para. 28),[86] by a recorded vote of 141 to 31, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia

*Against:* Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Ecuador, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe

### 67/202. Entrepreneurship for development

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the commitments to development and poverty eradication emanating from the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[87] and the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit,[88] the 2010 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[89] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions,

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[86] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu and Zambia.

[87] Resolution 55/2.

[88] Resolution 60/1.

[89] Resolution 65/1.

*Welcoming* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[90] and recognizing the potential of entrepreneurship to contribute to specific sustainable development objectives,

*Reaffirming* the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[91] in its holistic approach, and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[92]

*Recalling* the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[93]

*Recalling also* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[94] and the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on access and participation of women and girls in education, training and science and technology, including for the promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work, adopted at its fifty-fifth session,[95] and stressing that women, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship,

*Taking note* of the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2012 of the Economic and Social Council on "Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals",[96]

*Welcoming* the contribution of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as well as the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recognizing* the important contribution entrepreneurship can make to sustainable development by creating jobs and driving economic growth and innovation, improving social conditions and contributing to addressing environmental challenges, and stressing the importance of giving appropriate consideration to the promotion of entrepreneurship in the context of the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship and foster small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as microenterprises, and stresses the positive role entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

2. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop policies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive approach to entrepreneurship that includes support from development partners in the areas of technology transfer on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, finance and capacity-building, with a focus on education and skills development;

3. *Acknowledges* the important role trade plays in enhancing the capacity of enterprises, and reaffirms in this regard the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development as they advance towards sustainable development;

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[90] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[91] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[92] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[93] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[94] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[95] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 7* (E/2011/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[96] E/HLS/2012/1.

4. *Emphasizes* that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting the rights of workers;

5. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of services to such populations, increase access to information and promote financial literacy, particularly for women;

6. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and also encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with particular emphasis on women;

7. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy and integrating them into national social security systems;

8. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve their competitiveness, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange and transfer, innovation and capacity-building programmes for promoting entrepreneurship;

9. *Also recognizes* the value of teaching entrepreneurial skills at all levels of education, ensuring the full and equal participation of women and girls, and encourages entrepreneurship education through skills development, capacity-building, training programmes and business incubators;

10. *Acknowledges* the role of entrepreneurship in enabling youth to turn their creativity, energy and ideas into business opportunities by helping to facilitate their entry into the labour market;

11. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

12. *Acknowledges* that the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and support national regulatory and policy frameworks that enable business and industry to advance sustainable development initiatives, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility;

13. *Encourages* the international community to support the efforts of countries to promote entrepreneurship and foster the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and microenterprises, taking into account the challenges and opportunities of increased trade liberalization;

14. *Encourages* countries to consider establishing or strengthening national centres of excellence in entrepreneurship and similar bodies, and further encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices between them;

15. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, and to support national efforts in this regard, as appropriate;

16. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session to convene a high-level thematic debate, to be held in plenary meeting, to discuss promoting entrepreneurship in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication at the national, regional and international levels, and the role of the United Nations and the international community in this regard;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the progress made in implementing the present resolution, including highlighting best practices and identifying possible measures which could be taken at all levels in support of entrepreneurship.

## RESOLUTION 67/203

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.1, para. 14)[97]

### 67/203. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 64/236 of 24 December 2009 and 65/152 of 20 December 2010, as well as its resolutions 66/197 of 22 December 2011 and 66/288 of 27 July 2012 and all other relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[98] Agenda 21,[99] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[100] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[101] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[102] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[103] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[104] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[105] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[106]

*Recalling further* the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[107] the Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[108] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[109] and the outcome document of the high-level review meeting on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[110]

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[97] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[98] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[99] Ibid., annex II.

[100] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[101] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[102] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[103] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[104] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[105] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[106] Resolution 65/1.

[107] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[108] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[109] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[110] Resolution 65/2.

*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[111]

*Reaffirming* the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reaffirming also other internationally agreed goals in the economic, social and environmental fields since 1992, as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, including the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality, women's empowerment and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development,

*Reaffirming further* that the Economic and Social Council is a principal body for policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development and for the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals, and is a central mechanism for the coordination of the United Nations system and supervision of the subsidiary bodies of the Council, in particular its functional commissions, and for promoting the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coherence and coordination, and reaffirming the major role the Council plays in the overall coordination of funds, programmes and specialized agencies, ensuring coherence among them and avoiding duplication of mandates and activities,

*Recalling* that the Commission on Sustainable Development has been serving as the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and welcoming the decision to establish a universal, intergovernmental high-level political forum that would replace the Commission and to launch an intergovernmental and open, transparent and inclusive negotiation process under the General Assembly to define the format and organizational aspects of the high-level forum,

1. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[103] and urges its speedy implementation;

2. *Recalls* the commitment made at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to strengthen the Economic and Social Council within its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations as a principal organ in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, recognizes its key role in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard looks forward to the review of the implementation of its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Council;

3. *Also recalls* paragraphs 84 to 86 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, calls for the negotiation process under the General Assembly to define the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum to start in January 2013 at the latest and to aim to conclude

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[111] Resolution 55/2.

by May 2013 so as to provide enough time to prepare the first high-level forum to be convened at the beginning of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a focused and concise report on lessons learned from the Commission on Sustainable Development, compiling relevant existing information in consultation with Member States and benefiting from the inputs of major groups and other stakeholders, to inform the negotiations;

4. *Recommends* that the Commission on Sustainable Development hold its last session, which should be short and procedural, after the closure of negotiations on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum and immediately before the first high-level political forum, in order to ensure a smooth institutional transition;

5. *Welcomes* the adoption of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns[112] by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, recalls that the United Nations Environment Programme serves, within its current mandate, as the secretariat of the 10-year framework, and, bearing in mind that the high-level political forum will replace the Commission on Sustainable Development, decides to designate the Economic and Social Council as the ad interim Member State body to receive reports from the board and secretariat as elaborated in the 10-year framework and to review this ad interim arrangement at its sixty-eighth session, also decides to establish a 10-member board consisting of 2 members from each United Nations regional group, further decides to nominate, no later than 31 January 2013, the members of the board for an initial two-year term, requests the secretariat of the 10-year framework to elaborate a proposal on the duration of the subsequent terms, to be considered by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, requests the United Nations Environment Programme to establish a trust fund for sustainable consumption and production programmes to mobilize voluntary contributions from multiple sources, including public/donor contributions, the private sector and other sources, including foundations, and invites Member States and other stakeholders to designate focal points for sustainable consumption and production;

6. *Recalls* paragraphs 245 to 251 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and reiterates that the open working group on sustainable development goals will submit its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and that reports on the progress of work of the open working group will be made regularly to the Assembly, taking into account the convening of the first high-level political forum, without prejudice to the format and organizational aspects of the forum, and the special event in 2013 to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

7. *Also recalls* paragraphs 255 to 257 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, calls for the work of the intergovernmental committee established with a view to proposing options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy to start as soon as possible, preferably in January 2013, requests the intergovernmental committee to update the General Assembly on the progress of its work before the beginning of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and in this regard stresses the need to reinforce coherence and coordination and to avoid a duplication of efforts with regard to the financing for development process;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on options for a facilitation mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies,[113] decides to hold a series of four one-day workshops on the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies and the connection between clean and environmentally sound technologies and sustainable development, taking into account the need to avoid duplication and promote synergies and coherence, invites the President of the General Assembly, supported by the Secretariat, to organize the workshops, decides that the workshops will discuss, inter alia, the technology needs of developing countries, options to address those needs, capacity-building and options for a technology facilitation mechanism, taking into account existing mechanisms, also decides that the workshops will be supported by the United Nations system and enable the involvement of other relevant stakeholders, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the discussions, options and recommendations from the workshops, including on the way forward, as well as on additional inputs from Member States and the United Nations system;

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[112] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[113] A/67/348.

9. *Stresses* the need for synergy, coherence and mutual support among all these processes and other processes that are also relevant for the post-2015 development agenda;

10. *Welcomes* the decision in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to convene in 2014 a third international conference on small island developing States, and in this regard encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to provide the necessary support to ensure the success of the conference and its preparatory process;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution at its sixty-eighth session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development".

## RESOLUTION 67/204

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.1, para. 14)[114]

### 67/204. Implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/193 of 22 December 1992 on the observance of World Day for Water, 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, to commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, 59/228 of 22 December 2004, 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Sanitation, 64/198 of 21 December 2009 on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the Decade and 65/154 of 20 December 2010, by which it proclaimed 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation,

*Recalling also* its resolution 64/292 of 28 July 2010 on the human right to water and sanitation,

*Recalling further* Human Rights Council resolutions 15/9 of 30 September 2010[115] and 21/2 of 27 September 2012,[116]

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, the annex to which includes agreed guidelines and criteria for the proclamation of international years, and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[117] and all its principles, Agenda 21,[118] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[119] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable

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[114] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Viet Nam.

[115] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[116] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[117] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[118] Ibid., annex II.

[119] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

Development,[120] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[121] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals[122] and the commitments made therein and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[123]

*Emphasizing* that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and that it is indispensable for human health and well-being and central to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and other relevant internationally agreed goals in the economic, social and environmental fields,

*Acknowledging* the importance of cooperation at all levels for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[124] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

*Noting* the holding of the sixth World Water Forum in Marseille, France, from 12 to 17 March 2012,

*Noting also* that the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of World Water Day will take place during the International Year of Water Cooperation,

1. *Encourages* activities related to the implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, undertaken by Member States, the Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, and emphasizes the importance of country-level implementation of the Year;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year and to continue to promote actions at all levels, including through international cooperation, as appropriate, aimed at the achievement of the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21,[118] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[119] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[124] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[121] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want";[123]

3. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Tajikistan to host, in August 2013, in Dushanbe, a high-level international conference on water cooperation;

4. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level interactive dialogue during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2013, World Water Day, to mark the International Year of Water Cooperation and the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of World Water Day;

5. *Welcomes* the convening of the official World Water Day event on 22 March 2013 in The Hague, which will be dedicated to water cooperation, the theme of the Year;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the Year at all levels;

7. *Invites* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to contribute to the preparations for the high-level international conference in Dushanbe, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare a background paper on water cooperation for that conference;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with UN-Water and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to take appropriate actions to support the implementation of the Year worldwide;

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[120] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[121] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[122] Resolution 65/1.

[123] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[124] Resolution 55/2.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution and of resolution 65/154 on the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013, including on the assessment of the Year according to the guidelines as contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67.

## RESOLUTION 67/205

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.2, para. 21)[125]

### 67/205. Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[126] the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,[127] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[128] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[129] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[130] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[131] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

*Recalling* the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[132]

*Taking into account* all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008 and 65/155 of 20 December 2010,

*Taking into account also* the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[133]

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[134]

*Recalling also* the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,[135] and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[136] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

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[125] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[126] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[127] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[128] Ibid., annex II.

[129] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[130] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[131] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[132] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[133] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[134] Resolution 60/1.

[135] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[136] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

*Recalling* the Convention on Biological Diversity[137] and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[138] and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,[139]

*Emphasizing* the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[140]

*Recalling* the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

*Considering* that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

*Recognizing* that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems,

*Recognizing also* that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size,

*Noting* that the Caribbean Sea, when compared with all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world,

*Emphasizing* that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

*Bearing in mind* the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

*Acknowledging* that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources,

*Noting* the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials,

*Mindful* of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socioeconomic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

*Mindful also* of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote integrated management of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

*Welcoming* the continued efforts of the States members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law,

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[137] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[138] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[139] Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

[140] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

*Recalling* the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work,

*Cognizant* of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law;

2. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

3. *Welcomes* the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance their support, including financial, technical and capacity-building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action;

4. *Also welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission;

5. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

7. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

8. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

9. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the wider Caribbean region under annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, which entered into force in May 2011;

10. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

11. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,[137] to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

12. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively;

13. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States towards the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

14. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing activities of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region;

16. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

17. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

18. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

19. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations.

## RESOLUTION 67/206

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.2, para. 21)[141]

### 67/206. International Year of Small Island Developing States

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration of Barbados[142] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[143] the Mauritius Declaration[144] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[145] chapter 17 of Agenda 21[146] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[147] including chapter VII on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the high-level review meeting on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[148] General Assembly resolutions 65/156 of 20 December 2010 and 66/198 of 22 December 2011 and all its other previous resolutions on the subject,

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[149] endorsed by the General Assembly on 27 July 2012, and recognizing the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States,

*Reaffirming* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

1. *Decides* to declare 2014 the International Year of Small Island Developing States;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant organizations within the United Nations system, and mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of the Year, and stresses that the costs of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution above and beyond activities currently within their mandates should be met through voluntary contributions;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other stakeholders to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels, including through international, regional and subregional cooperation, as appropriate, aimed at the achievement of sustainable development of small island developing States;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, in his annual report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the

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[141] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[142] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[143] Ibid., annex II.

[144] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[145] Ibid., annex II.

[146] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[147] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[148] Resolution 65/2.

[149] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[145] on the implementation of the present resolution, and, inter alia, to elaborate in that report on the evaluation of the Year, including its financial aspects.

## RESOLUTION 67/207

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.2, para. 21)[150]

### 67/207. Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration of Barbados[151] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[152] the Mauritius Declaration[153] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[154] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[155] including chapter VII on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the high-level review meeting on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[156] held in New York on 24 and 25 September 2010,

*Recalling also* its resolution 66/198 of 22 December 2011 and all its previous resolutions on the subject,

*Reaffirming* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[157] including the call for the convening in 2014 of a third international conference on small island developing States and the invitation to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session to determine the modalities of the conference,

*Recalling* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the primary intergovernmental forum for monitoring the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, while recognizing that the institutional framework for sustainable development is currently evolving,

*Reaffirming* that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, including their small size, remoteness, narrow resource and export base and exposure to global environmental challenges and external economic shocks, including to a large range of impacts from climate change and potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters, noting with concern that the outcome of the five-year review of the Mauritius Strategy concluded that small island developing States have made less progress than most other groupings, or have even regressed, in economic terms, especially in terms of poverty reduction and debt sustainability, and that sea-level rise and other adverse impacts of climate change continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for many, represent the gravest of threats to their survival and viability, including, for some, through loss of territory, and remaining concerned that, while small island developing States have made progress in the areas of gender, health, education and the environment, their overall progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals has been uneven,

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[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[151] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[152] Ibid., annex II.

[153] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[154] Ibid., annex II.

[155] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[156] Resolution 65/2.

[157] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Recognizing* the need to promote the development of regional and national capacities for disaster risk reduction, including by strengthening risk assessments and early warning systems, as well as the reconstruction and rehabilitation of areas affected by natural disasters, including through the further implementation of the internationally agreed framework for disaster risk reduction, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[158]

*Taking note* of the Leaders' Declaration adopted at the meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Alliance of Small Island States, held in New York on 27 September 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the five-year review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[159] the review of United Nations system support to small island developing States[160] and concrete recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[161]

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerability of small island developing States, including through the sustained implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[152] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[154] and underlines the urgency of finding additional solutions to the major challenges facing small island developing States in a concerted manner so as to support them in sustaining the momentum realized in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy and achieving sustainable development;

3. *Also reaffirms* the decision to convene in 2014, building on the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy and chapter VII of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[155] regarding small island developing States, the third international conference on small island developing States as called for in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[157] recognizing the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States;

4. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Samoa to host the International Conference on Small Island Developing States in 2014;

5. *Decides* that the Conference should:

(*a*) Assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, building on, inter alia, existing reports and relevant processes;

(*b*) Seek a renewed political commitment by all countries to address effectively the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing States by focusing on practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, inter alia, through mobilization of resources and assistance for small island developing States;

(*c*) Identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of small island developing States and ways and means to address them, including through the strengthening of collaborative partnerships between small island developing States and the international community;

(*d*) Identify priorities for the sustainable development of small island developing States for consideration, as appropriate, in the elaboration of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda;

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[158] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

[159] A/65/115.

[160] A/66/218.

[161] A/66/278.

6. *Acknowledges* that small island developing States have demonstrated their commitment to promoting sustainable development and, to that effect, have mobilized resources at the national and regional levels despite their limited resource base, and welcomes the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts;

7. *Calls for* continued and enhanced efforts to assist small island developing States in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy and for a strengthening of United Nations system support to small island developing States, in keeping with the multiple ongoing and emerging challenges faced by those States in achieving sustainable development;

8. *Stresses* the importance of continued substantive consideration of the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy;

9. *Decides* to convene in 2013 a regional preparatory meeting in each of the three regions of small island developing States,[162] as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to identify and develop input for the Conference, while maximizing coherence and complementarity with respect to other preparatory work;

10. *Also decides* that the Conference will result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented political document;

11. *Further decides* that the national, regional, interregional and substantive preparations should be carried out in a most effective, well-structured and broad participatory manner and that, for this purpose, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and available resources, should provide the necessary support to the Conference and its preparatory process;

12. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to launch, at the end of 2013, the work of the intergovernmental preparatory process with respect to considering the governance structure as well as other organizational matters related to the work of the preparatory committee, and to convene the first meeting of the preparatory committee early in 2014;

13. *Decides* to consider further at its sixty-eighth session, before the end of 2013, the modalities and format of the Conference and how it can be organized in the most efficient and effective manner;

14. *Agrees* that the Conference will be convened at the highest possible level and will include a high-level segment;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the work of the preparatory process of the Conference and to the Conference itself and to ensure inter-agency cooperation and effective participation and coherence within the United Nations system, as well as the efficient use of resources, so that the objectives of the Conference can be addressed;

16. *Decides* that the Conference and its preparatory committee shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, that the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995, shall apply to the meetings of the preparatory committee, and that the preparatory committee shall consider and adopt the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference taking into consideration the established practice of the General Assembly and its conferences;

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[162] Atlantic, indian Ocean and South China Sea; Caribbean; and Pacific.

17. *Invites* relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations, international financial institutions and major groups identified in Agenda 21[163] to participate as observers in the Conference and the meetings of the preparatory committee;

18. *Calls for* the participation of associate members of the regional commissions in the Conference and the meetings of the preparatory committee, in the same capacity specified for their participation in the global conferences on the sustainable development of small island developing States held in 1994 and 2005;

19. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General for the Conference at the earliest possible date;

20. *Urges* international and bilateral donors, as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors in a position to do so, to support the preparations for the Conference through voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of preparations for the Conference and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries, priority being given to small island developing States, including coverage of economy-class air tickets, daily subsistence allowances and terminal expenses, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;

21. *Stresses* the need for the effective participation of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and other major groups, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries, in particular small island developing States, in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/208

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.3, para. 12)[164]

### 67/208. International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000, 56/194 of 21 December 2001, 57/255 of 20 December 2002, 59/232 of 22 December 2004, 61/199 of 20 December 2006, 63/215 of 19 December 2008 and 65/158 of 20 December 2010 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

*Noting* that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

*Reaffirming* the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

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[163] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[164] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

*Noting* that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

*Taking into account* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[165] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[166] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[167] in particular paragraph 37 (i) thereof,

*Reaffirming* the Hyogo Declaration[168] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[169]

*Acknowledging* the importance of the ongoing efforts to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation across sustainable development efforts, including taking into account the future impacts of El Niño in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,[170] in particular the annex to the report, entitled "Update on international cooperation to reduce the impact of El Niño/La Niña", and calls upon the international community to make further efforts to assist countries affected by this phenomenon;

2. *Recognizes* the continued efforts being made by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

3. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

4. *Notes* the contribution of the International Research Centre on El Niño as a reference centre on El Niño, including through developing a new climatic database for El Niño/Southern Oscillation-sensitive countries, carrying out applied research in climate change and vulnerability assessments in highlands, coastal zones and marine-protected and urban areas and providing professional training in the Americas, and encourages the sharing of best practices and lessons learned with climate centres located in other El Niño-affected regions;

5. *Recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives contributions from several climate centres, including the International Research Centre on El Niño;

6. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the measures necessary to further strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

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[165] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[166] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[167] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[168] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[169] Ibid., resolution 2.

[170] A/67/335.

8. *Underlines* the importance of maintaining the El Niño/Southern Oscillation observation system, continuing research into extreme weather events, improving forecasting skills and developing appropriate policies for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and other extreme weather events, and emphasizes the need to further develop and strengthen these institutional capacities in all countries, in particular developing countries;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", a section on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/209

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.3, para. 12)[171]

### 67/209. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 60/195 of 22 December 2005, 64/200 of 21 December 2009, 65/157 of 20 December 2010 and 66/199 of 22 December 2011, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

*Reaffirming* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[172] in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

*Recalling* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[173] Agenda 21,[174] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[175] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[176] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[177] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[178]

*Stressing* the importance of stronger interlinkages among disaster risk reduction, recovery and long-term development planning, calling for more coordinated and comprehensive strategies that integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation considerations into public and private investment, decision-making and the planning of humanitarian and development actions in order to reduce risk, increase resilience and provide a smoother transition between relief, recovery and development, and in this regard recognizing the need to integrate a gender perspective into the design and implementation of all phases of disaster risk management,

*Recalling* the results of the midterm review of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[179]

*Recognizing* that the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was confirmed, at its third session, held in Geneva from 8 to 13 May 2011, as being the main forum at the global level for strategic advice coordination and partnership development for disaster risk reduction,

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[171] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[172] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[173] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[174] Ibid., annex II.

[175] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[176] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[177] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[178] Resolution 65/1.

[179] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

*Welcoming* the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on managing the risks of extreme events and disasters to advance climate change adaptation, issued in Geneva in March 2012,

*Emphasizing* the added value of Governments, at all levels, as well as relevant subregional, regional and international organizations, in committing adequate, timely and predictable resources for disaster risk reduction in order to enhance resilience of cities and communities to disasters, according to their own circumstances and capacities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 66/199;[180]

2. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages Member States and the relevant United Nations bodies to take into consideration the important role of disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

3. *Reaffirms* the commitment to the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[179] and calls upon States, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, subregional, regional and international organizations and civil society to accelerate implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and the achievement of its goals;

4. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national priorities, to establish and develop national disaster loss databases, disaster risk mapping and financial tracking systems in order to support decision-making across all levels of Government and to make full use, as appropriate, of the Hyogo Framework for Action Monitor system to support the assessment of progress made in disaster risk reduction;

5. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities, in particular in developing countries, through, inter alia, the exchange of best practices, technology transfer, as mutually agreed, and technical knowledge, educational and training programmes for disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information, the strengthening of institutional arrangements and the promotion of community participation and ownership through community-based disaster risk management approaches;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of the developing of strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels by Member States, in particular developing countries, to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist, to strengthen them and to encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools, and requests the regional commissions, within their mandates, to support the efforts of Member States in this regard, in close coordination with the implementing entities of the United Nations system;

7. *Encourages* States to establish disaster risk reduction as a priority for community-level action and to promote the involvement of relevant stakeholders, including community representatives, national Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, other civil society actors and the private sector, and to allocate adequate resources for disaster risk reduction activities at the community level;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of coordinating adaptation to climate change with relevant disaster risk reduction measures, invites Governments and relevant international organizations to integrate those considerations in a comprehensive manner into, inter alia, development plans and poverty eradication programmes and into the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, and invites the international community to support the ongoing efforts of developing countries in this regard;

9. *Welcomes* the upcoming fourth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Geneva from 19 to 23 May 2013, which will focus on reviewing progress in the implementation of the commitments made at its previous sessions in 2007, 2009 and 2011, and encourages all relevant stakeholders to participate with senior-level representation from various sectors;

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[180] A/67/335.

10. *Decides* to convene the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, in Japan, in early 2015 to review the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and to adopt a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction;

11. *Also decides* to consider, before the end of 2013, the scope, modalities, participation, format and organization of the Conference in the most efficient and effective manner possible;

12. *Requests* the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to serve as the secretariat of the Conference, to facilitate the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction and to coordinate the preparatory activities in consultation with all relevant stakeholders;

13. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to actively engage in the consultation process for the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, including by the sharing of lessons learned on managing disaster risks, for example, through the convening of national multi-stakeholder consultations and participation in regional platforms;

14. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience to disasters within the post-2015 development agenda;

15. *Also strongly encourages* promoting a complementary and coherent approach to the relationship between the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction and the post-2015 development agenda;

16. *Encourages* all Member States in a position to do so to ensure resources and support for strengthening the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction so that it can meet the challenges of its coming work and discharge its cross-cutting mandate with efficiency and effectiveness;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the institutional arrangements of the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction under review, with a view to supporting it in effectively and efficiently carrying out its cross-cutting mandate and its role as the focal point for disaster reduction within the United Nations system;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction";

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/210

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.4, para. 8)[181]

### 67/210. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010 and 66/200 of 22 December 2011 and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[182] including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and social and economic conditions,

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[181] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[182] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

*Acknowledging* that the developed country parties must take the lead in combating climate change and its adverse effects,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[183] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[184] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[185] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[186] the outcome of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention and of the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 15 December 2007,[187] and the outcomes of all the sessions, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[188] the Mauritius Declaration[189] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[190] the political declaration on Africa's development needs,[191] the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[192] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[193]

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[194]

*Reaffirming* its commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, and also reaffirming that such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner,

*Reaffirming also* the financial obligations of developed country parties and other developed parties included in annex II to the Convention under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol,[195]

*Reaffirming further* that the Convention has a key role in addressing climate change,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, hosted by the Government of South Africa in Durban, from 28 November to 11 December 2011;[196]

2. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already

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[183] Resolution 55/2.

[184] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[185] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[186] Resolution 60/1.

[187] FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1 and 2 and FCCC/KP/CMP/2007/9/Add.1 and 2.

[188] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[189] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[190] Ibid., annex II.

[191] Resolution 63/1.

[192] Resolution 57/2.

[193] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[194] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[195] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2303, No. 30822.

[196] FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1 and 2 and FCCC/KP/CMP/2011/10/Add.1 and 2.

experiencing increased impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and in this regard emphasizes that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority;

3. *Recognizes* the need to build on the existing political momentum with a view to achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention and to further advancing climate change negotiations;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban;[197]

5. *Notes with appreciation* that the Government of Qatar hosted the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in Doha from 26 November to 8 December 2012;

6. *Registers its encouragement* to Member States to approach the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Doha with a view to achieving an ambitious, substantive and balanced outcome, building on the progress made through the Bali Action Plan[198] and the decisions adopted at Cancun, Mexico,[199] and Durban, South Africa,[196] accelerating progress towards the full implementation of those decisions through the ongoing negotiations at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, consistent with the mandates of and decisions on the three tracks of negotiations, and further developing and implementing the new processes and institutions agreed in the Cancun and Durban decisions;

7. *Notes* the significant political momentum towards adopting the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol[195] as a key deliverable at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Doha;

8. *Takes note* of the decision, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its seventeenth session, to launch a process to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties, through a subsidiary body under the Convention known as the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action;[200]

9. *Also takes note* of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall complete its work as early as possible, but no later than 2015, in order to adopt the protocol, legal instrument or agreed outcome with legal force at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties and for it to come into effect in and be implemented as from 2020;[200]

10. *Further takes note* of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall plan its work in the first half of 2012, including on mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, transparency of action and support and capacity-building, drawing upon submissions from parties and relevant technical, social and economic information and expertise;[200]

11. *Takes note* of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to launch a workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition to identify and explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap, with a view to ensuring the highest possible mitigation efforts by all parties;[200]

12. *Recognizes* the need to engage a broad range of stakeholders at the global, regional, national and local levels, including national, subnational and local governments, private businesses and civil society, and including youth and persons with disabilities, and that gender equality and the effective participation of women and indigenous peoples are important for effective action on all aspects of climate change;

13. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

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[197] A/67/295, sect. I.

[198] FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1, decision 1/CP.13.

[199] At the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Cancun from 29 November to 10 December 2010 (see FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1 and 2).

[200] FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1, decision 1/CP.17.

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind".

## RESOLUTION 67/211

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.5, para. 11)[201]

### 67/211. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/201 of 22 December 2011 as well as other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[202]

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[203] in which the Conference, inter alia, recognized the economic and social significance of good land management, including soil, particularly its contribution to economic growth, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and food security, eradicating poverty, women's empowerment, addressing climate change and improving water availability, stressed that desertification, land degradation and drought are challenges of a global dimension and continue to pose serious challenges to the sustainable development of all countries, in particular developing countries, stressed also the particular challenges this poses for Africa, the least developed countries and the landlocked developing countries, expressed deep concern at the devastating consequences of cyclical drought and famine in Africa, in particular in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel region, and called for urgent action through short-, medium- and long-term measures at all levels,

*Recalling further* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development recognized the need for urgent action to reverse land degradation and, in view of this, for striving to achieve a land-degradation-neutral world in the context of sustainable development, which should act to catalyse financial resources from a range of public and private sources,

*Concerned* by the devastating consequences of extreme weather phenomena in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid regions, characterized by recurrent and long spells of drought, flooding and increasing frequency and severity of dust storms and sandstorms, and their negative impact on the environment and the economy,

*Emphasizing* the need to promote sustainable land management, sustainable forest management and the restoration of degraded lands in order to combat desertification, land degradation and drought,

*Noting* that avoiding additional land degradation while restoring degraded land is crucial in order for the rural poor to achieve food security and access to energy and water,

*Noting also* the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation at all levels among the parties to and the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[204] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[205] while respecting their individual mandates,

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[201] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[202] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[203] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[204] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[205] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

*Underlining* the cross-sectoral nature of desertification, land degradation and drought mitigation, including its economic, social and environmental dimensions, and in this regard inviting all relevant United Nations organizations to cooperate with the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in supporting an effective response to those challenges,

*Recalling* its high-level meeting on the theme "Addressing desertification, land degradation and drought in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication",

*Welcoming* the organization of the second Scientific Conference of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, on the theme "Economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas", to be held from 4 to 7 February 2013 in Fortaleza, Brazil,

*Noting* efforts made by the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the World Meteorological Organization, in collaboration with a number of United Nations agencies and relevant United Nations offices, international and regional organizations and key national agencies, to organize and hold a high-level meeting on national drought policy in Geneva in March 2013,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 66/201 and the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[206]

2. *Calls upon* Member States to take urgent action to reverse desertification, land degradation and drought, as appropriate, with the assistance of the United Nations system, relevant regional and international organizations, multilateral agencies, major groups and other stakeholders;

3. *Reaffirms its resolve*, in accordance with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[202] to take coordinated action, nationally, regionally and internationally, to globally monitor land degradation and restore degraded lands in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, also reaffirms its resolve to support and strengthen the implementation of the Convention and the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance its implementation (2008–2018), including by mobilizing adequate, predictable and timely financial resources, notes the importance of mitigating the effects of desertification, land degradation and drought, including by preserving and developing oases, restoring degraded lands, improving soil quality and improving water management in order to contribute to sustainable development and poverty eradication, encourages and recognizes in this regard the importance of partnerships and initiatives for the safeguarding of land resources, and also encourages capacity-building, extension training programmes and scientific studies and initiatives aimed at deepening understanding and raising awareness of the economic, social and environmental benefits of sustainable land management policies and practices;

4. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the issues of desertification, land degradation and drought in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the further development and implementation of scientifically based, sound and socially inclusive methods and indicators for monitoring and assessing the extent of desertification, land degradation and drought, as well as the importance of efforts under way to promote scientific research in accordance with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;

6. *Also stresses* the importance of efforts under way to strengthen the scientific base of activities to address desertification and drought in accordance with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and in this context takes note of the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its tenth session, to set up an ad hoc working group, taking into consideration regional balance, to further discuss the options for the provision of scientific advice focusing on desertification, land degradation and drought issues, taking into account the regional approach of the Convention;[207]

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[206] A/67/295, sect. II.

[207] See ICCD/COP(10)/31/Add.1, decision 20/COP.10.

7. *Reiterates* the need for cooperation through the sharing of climate and weather information, forecasting and early warning systems related to desertification, land degradation and drought, as well as to dust storms and sandstorms, at the global, regional and subregional levels, and in this regard invites States and relevant organizations to cooperate in the sharing of related information, forecasting and early warning systems;

8. *Notes* the importance of the participation of civil society organizations and other stakeholders in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and its subsidiary bodies in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties, as well as the involvement of those stakeholders in the implementation of the Convention and the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention;

9. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Global Environment Facility, in further enhancing resource allocation during future replenishments, to consider increasing allocations to the land degradation focal area, depending on the availability of resources;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/212

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.6, para. 9)[208]

### 67/212. Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/203 of 21 December 2009, 65/161 of 20 December 2010 and 66/202 of 22 December 2011 and previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[209]

*Recalling also* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992,[210] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[211] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[212] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[213] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[214] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[215]

*Reaffirming* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[216] and its principles,

*Recalling* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[217]

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[208] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[209] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[210] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[211] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[212] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[213] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[214] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[215] Resolution 65/1.

[216] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[217] Resolution 61/295, annex.

*Recalling also* that the objectives of the Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to those technologies, and by appropriate funding,

*Reaffirming* the intrinsic value of biological diversity as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being,

*Recognizing* that the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention is crucial for sustainable development, poverty eradication and the improvement of human well-being and a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Reaffirming* that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, States have the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

*Recalling* that, in its resolution 65/161, the General Assembly declared the decade 2011–2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020,[218]

*Recognizing* that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities make an important contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and that their wider application can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

*Taking note* of decision XI/14 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its eleventh meeting,[219] in which the parties, noting the recommendations contained in paragraphs 26 and 27 of the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its tenth session,[220] requested the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions, taking into account submissions by parties, other Governments, relevant stakeholders and indigenous and local communities, to consider this matter and all its implications for the Convention and the parties, at its next meeting, for further consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting,

*Noting* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its tenth meeting, of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[221] and acknowledging the role of access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability and thereby to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,

*Noting also* that 192 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Convention and that 163 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[222]

*Noting further* that 91 States and 1 regional economic integration organization have signed the Nagoya Protocol,

*Recalling* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth meeting of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention,[223] as well as decisions X/3[224] and XI/4[219] adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth and eleventh meetings on the review of its implementation, including the establishment of preliminary targets,

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[218] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/2.

[219] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35, annex I.

[220] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (E/2011/43 and Corr.1).

[221] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/1.

[222] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

[223] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/11.

*Expressing deep appreciation* to the Government of India for hosting the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, from 8 to 19 October 2012, and the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, from 1 to 5 October 2012, both held in Hyderabad, and welcoming the decision by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting to endorse the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to host the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, all due to be held in the second half of 2014,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[225]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the recent appointment of the new Executive Secretary, and expresses its support for his tenure;

3. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[214] and, inter alia, the commitments concerning biodiversity;

4. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[219]

5. *Recognizes* that parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[209] have reiterated that resources, financial, human and technical, need to be mobilized from all sources and that this should be balanced with the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020,[218] stresses the need for further consideration of the evaluation of all resources mobilized in terms of the biodiversity outcomes achieved, and in this regard welcomes the decision of the parties to the Convention[226] on an overall substantial increase in total biodiversity-related funding for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 from a variety of sources, including national and international resource mobilization, international cooperation and the exploration of new and innovative financial mechanisms;

6. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by parties to the Convention and relevant stakeholders that aim to effectively implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, expresses appreciation for the contribution made by the Government of India at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention through the Hyderabad Pledge, which aims to strengthen institutional mechanisms and enhance technical and human capabilities and includes earmarked funds to promote similar capacity-building in developing countries, and encourages parties in a position to do so to undertake similar initiatives;

7. *Encourages* Governments and all stakeholders, in line with the provisions of the Convention, to take measures that aim to share, in a fair and equitable way, the results of the research and development and the benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources on mutually agreed terms;

8. *Recognizes* the role indigenous and local communities can have in the stewardship and sustainable management of natural renewable resources, and the possible role of market- and non-market-based approaches in the management of those resources;

9. *Calls upon* parties and all stakeholders to incorporate, within their national strategies and action plans, measures to respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such

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[224] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

[225] A/67/295, sect. III.

[226] Decision XI/4, entitled "Review of implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization, including the establishment of targets", adopted at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (see United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35, annex I).

knowledge, innovations and practices, and to encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices;

10. *Stresses* the importance of private sector engagement for the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and in achieving biodiversity targets, and invites businesses to align their policies and practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including through partnerships;

11. *Recognizes* that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can significantly contribute to disaster risk reduction and to reducing the adverse impacts of climate change, including by adding resilience to fragile ecosystems and making them less vulnerable;

12. *Encourages* parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to take concrete measures towards achieving the objectives of the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization,[221] requests parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to coherently and efficiently implement their obligations and commitments under the Convention, and in this regard emphasizes the need to comprehensively address at all levels the difficulties that impede the full implementation of the Convention;

13. *Urges* the parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions, and in this regard takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, as well as of decision XI/2, entitled "Review of progress in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related capacity-building support to parties";[219]

14. *Calls upon* Governments and all stakeholders to take appropriate measures to mainstream consideration of the socioeconomic impacts and benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components, as well as of ecosystems that provide essential services, into relevant programmes and policies at all levels, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities;

15. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing to pursue more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, and calls upon parties and stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation measures for the fulfilment of obligations contained in the Convention, including through addressing implementation gaps, particularly with regard to article 15 of the Convention;

16. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[227] and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[228] (the Rio conventions) and of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, acknowledges the importance of improving coherence in the implementation of those conventions, recognizes the importance of enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, without prejudice to their specific objectives, and encourages the conferences of the parties to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements to consider strengthening efforts in this regard, taking into account relevant experiences and bearing in mind the respective independent legal status and mandates of those instruments;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its tenth meeting,[218] and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020;

18. *Notes* the efforts to mainstream the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in the contribution of the United Nations system to support the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, and invites the United Nations system to continue facilitating cooperation among its members in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan;

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[227] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[228] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

19. *Invites* countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

20. *Invites* parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Nagoya Protocol, so as to ensure its early entry into force and its implementation, and furthermore requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant organizations, to continue supporting capacity-building and development activities to support the ratification, early entry into force and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, and in this regard notes the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund within the Global Environment Facility, aimed at supporting concrete capacity development projects for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;

21. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and its potential benefit to Governments, invites an early commencement of its work, in order to provide the best available policy-relevant information on biodiversity to assist decision makers, and encourages Member States that have not yet done so to become members of the Platform;

22. *Decides* to devote one of the special events of the Second Committee during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, as part of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and to further efforts to improve coherence, to a joint briefing by the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the relevant United Nations bodies on the implementation of the objectives of the Convention, including actions undertaken to promote access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization and associated traditional knowledge, and to include an executive summary of the event in the note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of United Nations environmental conventions[229] to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, before the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

23. *Encourages* parties and all stakeholders, institutions and organizations concerned to consider the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in the elaboration of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, taking into account the three dimensions of sustainable development;

24. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the advancement of the implementation of the Convention and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including on difficulties encountered in the process of their implementation;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

## RESOLUTION 67/213

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.7, para. 9)[230]

### 67/213. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the mandate contained in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997[231] and the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000,[232]

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[229] Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

[230] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 55/200 of 20 December 2000, 57/251 of 20 December 2002, 64/204 of 21 December 2009, 65/162 of 20 December 2010 and 66/203 of 22 December 2011 and other previous resolutions relating to the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

*Taking into account* Agenda 21[233] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[234]

*Reaffirming* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[235] and its principles,

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[236]

*Recalling also* the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[237]

*Committed* to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entitled "The future we want",[238] in which the General Assembly was invited to adopt, at its sixty-seventh session, a resolution strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme in the manner outlined in paragraph 88, subparagraphs (*a*) to (*h*), of the outcome document,

*Recalling also* paragraph 89 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in which parties to multilateral environmental agreements were encouraged to consider further measures, in the chemicals and waste cluster and other clusters, as appropriate, to promote policy coherence at all relevant levels, improve efficiency, reduce unnecessary overlap and duplication and enhance coordination and cooperation among the multilateral environmental agreements, including the three Rio conventions, as well as with the United Nations system in the field,

*Reiterating* the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII) underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget,

*Reiterating also* that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme,

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[231] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[232] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

[233] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[234] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[235] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[236] Resolution 60/1.

[237] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[238] Resolution 66/288, annex.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the decisions contained therein;[239]

2. *Reiterates* the continuing need for the United Nations Environment Programme to conduct up-to-date, comprehensive, scientifically credible and policy-relevant global environment assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels, in this regard takes note of the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series and its related summary for policymakers, and stresses the need to enhance the policy relevance of the Outlook by, inter alia, identifying policy options to speed up the achievement of the internationally agreed goals and to inform global and regional processes and meetings at which progress towards the agreed goals will be discussed;

3. *Also reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Environment Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and to the other United Nations organizations and entities in Nairobi;

4. *Decides*:

(*a*) To strengthen and upgrade the United Nations Environment Programme in the manner set out in subparagraphs (*a*) to (*h*) of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012;

(*b*) To establish universal membership in the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, and mandates it, as from its first universal session to be held in Nairobi in February 2013, using its applicable rules of procedure and applicable rules and practices of the General Assembly, pending the adoption of its new rules of procedure, to expeditiously initiate the implementation of the provisions contained in paragraph 88 of the outcome document in their entirety, make a recommendation on its designation to reflect its universal character and decide on future arrangements for the Global Ministerial Environment Forum;

(*c*) To request the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to provide support for the full and effective participation of representatives of developing countries in the Governing Council meeting and invite the Governing Council to consider further arrangements in this regard;

5. *Recalls* the decision to have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary contributions to fulfil the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, and:

(*a*) Requests the Secretary-General, in line with paragraph 88 (*b*) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to reflect in the budget proposal for the biennium 2014–2015 resources that take into account the proposed revised programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme and the implementation of paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h), of the outcome document, as well as opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources;

(*b*) Urges donors to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund;

(*c*) Requests the Secretary-General to maintain the resource needs from the regular budget of the United Nations for the United Nations Environment Programme under review, in the light of the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document, in accordance with United Nations budgetary practices;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its first universal session".

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[239] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/67/25).

## RESOLUTION 67/214

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.8, para. 7)[240]

### 67/214. Harmony with Nature

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[241] Agenda 21,[242] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[243] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[244] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[245]

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/196 of 21 December 2009, 65/164 of 20 December 2010 and 66/204 of 22 December 2011 on Harmony with Nature and its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009, by which it designated 22 April as International Mother Earth Day,

*Recalling also* the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[246]

*Recalling further* its resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, entitled "International Day of Nowruz", and its resolution 65/309 of 19 July 2011, entitled "Happiness: towards a holistic approach to development",

*Noting* the interactive dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, held on 18 April 2012, to commemorate International Mother Earth Day by discussing the scientific findings on the impacts of human activities on the functioning of the Earth system,

*Noting also* the first Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,[247]

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[248]

*Expressing concern* about documented environmental degradation, the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity, and recognizing the need to strengthen scientific knowledge on the effects of human activities on the Earth ecosystems, with the aim of promoting and ensuring an equitable, balanced and sustainable relationship with the Earth,

*Recognizing* that gross domestic product was not designed as an indicator for measuring environmental degradation resulting from human activity and the need to overcome this limitation with regard to sustainable development and the work carried out in this regard,

*Recognizing also* the uneven availability of basic statistical data under the three pillars of sustainable development and the need to improve their quality and quantity,

*Reaffirming* that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,

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[240] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Georgia and Ukraine.

[241] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[242] Ibid., annex II.

[243] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[244] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[245] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[246] Resolution 37/7, annex.

[247] A/64/777, annexes I and II.

[248] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Recognizing* that many ancient civilizations and indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

*Recognizing also* the work undertaken by civil society, academia and scientists in regard to signalling the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts to devise more sustainable models for production and consumption,

*Considering* that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

1. *Takes note* of the third report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature;[249]

2. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, at the sixty-seventh session of the Assembly, an interactive dialogue to be held at the plenary meetings to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day on 22 April 2013, with the participation of Member States, United Nations organizations, independent experts and other stakeholders, to advance discussions on economic approaches, in the context of sustainable development, to further a more ethical basis for the relationship between humanity and the Earth;

3. *Recalls* its resolutions requesting the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund for the participation of independent experts in the interactive dialogue to be held at the plenary meetings to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day, and in this regard invites Member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider contributing to this trust fund;

4. *Welcomes* the launching of the Harmony with Nature website on the occasion of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development by the secretariat of the Conference and the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make use of the existing website maintained by the Division by gathering information and contributions on ideas and activities to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature being undertaken to advance the integration of scientific interdisciplinary work, including success stories on the use of traditional knowledge and on existing national legislation;

5. *Recognizes* that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions, and that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development, and is convinced that, in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature;

6. *Calls for* holistic and integrated approaches to sustainable development that will guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystems;

7. *Encourages* all countries and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of basic statistical data on the three pillars of sustainable development, and invites the international community and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system to assist the efforts of developing countries by providing capacity-building and technical support;

8. *Recognizes* the need for broader measures of progress to complement gross domestic product in order to better inform policy decisions, and in this regard recalls the request made to the Statistical Commission, in paragraph 38 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[248] that the Commission, in consultation with relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant organizations, launch a programme of work in this area, building on existing initiatives;

9. *Underlines*, in this regard, the need to expedite the launch of this programme of work;

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[249] A/67/317.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be included also as an input for the discussion of the post-2015 development agenda, taking into account the three dimensions of sustainable development;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Harmony with Nature".

## RESOLUTION 67/215

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/437/Add.9, para. 8)[250]

### 67/215. Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999 and 55/205 of 20 December 2000, and recalling also its resolutions 56/200 of 21 December 2001, 58/210 of 23 December 2003, 60/199 of 22 December 2005, 62/197 of 19 December 2007, 64/206 of 21 December 2009 and 66/206 of 22 December 2011 on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy and also its resolution 65/151 of 20 December 2010 on the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All,

*Recalling also* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome[251] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[252]

*Reaffirming* the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[253] and of Agenda 21,[254] and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[255] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[256]

*Recalling* the high-level event on Sustainable Energy for All, which was held at its sixty-seventh session and which focused on access to energy, energy efficiency and renewable energies,

*Concerned* that lack of access to energy and sustainable modern energy services is an important factor that directly affects efforts towards poverty eradication, the greatest global challenge facing the world today, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the developing world,

*Deeply concerned* that 2.6 billion people in developing countries rely on traditional biomass for cooking and heating, that 1.3 billion people are without electricity and that, even when energy services are available, millions of poor people are unable to pay for them,

*Emphasizing* that the increased use and promotion of new and renewable sources of energy for sustainable development could make a significant contribution towards the achievement of sustainable development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Emphasizing also* the need to take further action to mobilize the provision of adequate financial resources of sufficient quality and arriving in a timely manner, as well as the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the provision of the efficient and wider use of energy sources, in particular new and renewable sources of energy,

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[250] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[251] Resolution 60/1.

[252] Resolution 65/1.

[253] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[254] Ibid., annex II.

[255] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[256] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Reaffirming* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing the need for the creation of an enabling environment at all levels for investment and sustained financing,

*Noting with appreciation* the work of the International Renewable Energy Agency, which is aimed at promoting the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy,

*Highlighting* the importance of the empowerment of developing countries as the way to achieve a rapid expansion of renewable energy worldwide,

*Stressing* the need for a coherent, integrated approach to energy issues and the promotion of synergies across the global energy agenda for sustainable development, with a focus on eradicating poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All, 2012,[257] and on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy;[258]

2. *Decides* to declare 2014–2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, to be promoted through all sources of energy, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, a report on the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All for submission to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

4. *Stresses* the need to increase the share of new and renewable sources of energy in the global energy mix as an important contribution to achieving universal access to sustainable modern energy services, and recognizes that the activities of countries in broader energy-related matters are prioritized according to their specific challenges, capacities and circumstances, including their energy mix;

5. *Emphasizes* that improving energy efficiency, increasing the share of renewable energy, and cleaner and energy-efficient technologies are important for sustainable development;

6. *Recognizes* that the current share of new and renewable sources of energy in the global energy supply is still low owing to, among other factors, high costs and lack of access to appropriate technologies, and calls for action to achieve economic viability of new and renewable sources of energy through enhanced research and development support along with appropriate policy initiatives and investments at the national and international levels, with Governments working in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to take further action to mobilize the provision of financial resources, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, capacity-building and the diffusion of new and existing environmentally sound technologies to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[255]

8. *Encourages* efforts by Governments aimed at creating and developing an enabling environment at all levels to ensure the promotion and use of new and renewable sources of energy;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development, and takes into consideration the diversity of situations, national policies and specific needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

10. *Reaffirms its determination* to act to make sustainable energy for all a reality;

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[257] A/67/314.

[258] A/67/318.

11. *Recognizes* the importance of giving appropriate consideration to energy issues in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

12. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, which could meet the growing need for energy services in the longer term to achieve sustainable development;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to galvanize efforts to make universal access to sustainable modern energy services a priority, as such services contribute to poverty eradication, improve the quality of life, reduce inequality, save lives, improve health and help to provide for basic human needs, as well as curb environmental risks, including those associated with climate change, and stresses that these services are essential to social inclusion and gender equality;

14. *Encourages* the development of viable market-oriented strategies that could result in the most rapid reduction in the cost of new and renewable sources of energy and increase the competitiveness of those technologies, including through the adoption, as appropriate, of public policies for research, development and market deployment;

15. *Reiterates its call upon* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to continue to support, as appropriate, efforts aimed at the development of the energy sector in developing countries and countries with economies in transition on the basis of environment-friendly new and renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand energy supplies, including beyond urban areas;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of financial resources, in a stable and predictable manner, and technical assistance, and to enhance the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of new and renewable sources of energy;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account, inter alia, the initiatives taken by Member States and international organizations to create an enabling environment at all levels for the promotion and use of new and renewable energy, including measures to improve access to such technologies;

18. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to promote renewable energy and related sustainable practices in all United Nations facilities around the world, from within existing resources;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy".

## RESOLUTION 67/216

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/438, para. 13)[259]

### 67/216. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements[260] and of the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),[261]

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[259] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[260] See *Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May–11 June 1976* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum).

[261] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6).

*Recalling also* relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), as well as relevant decisions and resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

*Reaffirming* the outcome document, entitled "The future we want", of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,[262]

*Recognizing* the progress made in meeting and even surpassing Millennium Development Goal 7, target 11, while noting that slums continue to be a global challenge,

*Acknowledging* that, while significant progress has been made in implementing the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[263] and the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda,[264] challenges remain, such as, inter alia, the continuing increase in the number of slum dwellers in the world, the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements and the need to reduce disaster risks and build resilience to disasters in urban settlements,

*Cognizant* of the fact that these challenges may hinder the work towards improving the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of both urban and rural dwellers, and achieving a safe and healthy living environment for all,

*Recognizing* that cities are engines of economic growth and that, if they are well planned and developed, including through integrated planning and management approaches, they can promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies,

*Recalling* paragraphs 134 to 137 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development on sustainable cities and human settlements,

*Noting* the ongoing review of the governance structure of UN-Habitat, which aims to improve its transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness,

*Recognizing* that the World Urban Forum is the foremost global arena for interaction among policymakers, local government leaders, non-governmental stakeholders and expert practitioners in the field of human settlements, and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Italy and the city of Naples for hosting the sixth session of the Forum from 1 to 6 September 2012,

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/207 of 21 December 2009, 65/165 of 20 December 2010 and 66/207 of 22 December 2011, which addressed the convening in 2016 of a follow-up conference to Habitat II, Habitat III,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[265] and on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[266]

2. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to sustainable urbanization in the elaboration of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring consistency and coherence in the deliberations of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on agenda items related to the work of UN-Habitat;

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[262] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[263] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[264] Ibid., annex II.

[265] E/2012/65.

[266] A/67/263.

4. *Reaffirms* its decision to convene in 2016 a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), welcomes the offer of the Government of Turkey to host the conference in Istanbul, and invites participation in the conference at the highest possible level;

5. *Welcomes* the appointment, by the Secretary-General, of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to serve as Secretary-General of the conference and to act as focal point on behalf of the United Nations system;

6. *Decides* that:

(*a*) The objective of the conference will be to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable urban development, assessing accomplishments to date, addressing poverty and identifying and addressing new and emerging challenges, and that the focus of the conference will include, but will not be limited to, the theme "Sustainable urban development: the future of urbanization", to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process;

(*b*) The conference will result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document, which shall reinvigorate the global commitment to and support for housing and sustainable urban development and the implementation of a "New Urban Agenda";

(*c*) The conference and its preparatory process should take into account and build upon the principles and gains achieved through the implementation of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[267] Agenda 21,[268] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[269] the Habitat Agenda,[264] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium[270] and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[271] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[272] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[273] as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want";[262]

7. *Also decides* to establish a preparatory committee to carry out the preparations for the conference;

8. *Further decides* that the conference and its Preparatory Committee shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

9. *Decides*, while remaining mindful of the need to carry out the conference and the preparatory process in the most inclusive, efficient, effective and improved manner, that:

(*a*) The Preparatory Committee will meet three times before the opening of the conference;

(*b*) The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in New York, for a period of two days, during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

(*c*) The second meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in Nairobi in 2015, for a period of three days, taking full advantage of the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat;

(*d*) The venue and duration of the third and final Preparatory Committee meeting will be considered by the General Assembly no later than at its sixty-ninth session, before the end of 2014;

(*e*) The Preparatory Committee, when considering the rules of procedure of the Committee and the provisional rules of procedure of the conference, will take into consideration the rules of procedure of Habitat II endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/100 of 20 December 1995 and the established practice of the Assembly;

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[267] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992,* vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[268] Ibid., annex II.

[269] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[270] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[271] Resolution 55/2.

[272] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[273] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

10. *Also decides* to consider the final dates, format and organizational aspects of the conference no later than at its sixty-ninth session, before the end of 2014;

11. *Encourages* effective contributions from and the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, including local governments, major groups as identified in Agenda 21, the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other Habitat Agenda partners, at all stages of the preparatory process and at the conference itself, and requests the Secretary-General of the conference to make proposals to the Preparatory Committee on improved participation of local authorities and other stakeholders in the preparatory process and the conference itself, building on the positive experience enabled by the rules and procedures of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and the inclusive engagement modalities of Habitat II;

12. *Encourages* stakeholders gathered at the seventh session of the World Urban Forum, as well as at the regular ministerial conferences on housing and urban development and other relevant expert group meetings, to provide inputs and to contribute as appropriate to the process leading to the conference;

13. *Decides* to establish a trust fund for the conference, and in this regard:

(*a*) Urges international and bilateral donors as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors in a position to do so to support the preparations for the conference through voluntary contributions to the trust fund and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the Preparatory Committee meetings and in the conference itself;

(*b*) Invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of Habitat Agenda partners in the Preparatory Committee meetings;

(*c*) Requests the Secretary-General of the conference, when using the resources of the trust fund, to prioritize the coverage of economy-class air tickets, the daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses, and to report on the use of the trust fund to the Governing Council of UN-Habitat at its twenty-fifth session;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the conference to prepare, using the expertise of the United Nations system, a proposal, for consideration by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat at its twenty-fourth session, on how best to provide inputs for and support to the preparatory process of the conference in the most inclusive, efficient, effective and improved manner, and to proceed accordingly;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide, in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, all appropriate support to the Secretary-General of the conference and to the work of the preparatory process and the conference, while promoting inter-agency support to the maximum possible extent;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the completion of the organizational review undertaken by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat;

17. *Invites* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to present to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, as appropriate, the outcomes of the governance review process, for consideration by the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, and encourages the Executive Director and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to continue their efforts to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of UN-Habitat;

18. *Welcomes* the progress in the elaboration of the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019 and its focus areas;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including an update on progress made in the preparations for the conference;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

## RESOLUTION 67/217

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/439/Add.1, para. 10),[274] by a recorded vote of 132 to 47, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Palau, Republic of Korea, Turkey, Ukraine

### 67/217. Towards a New International Economic Order

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

*Recalling* the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, on 1 May 1974,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 63/224 of 19 December 2008, 64/209 of 21 December 2009 and 65/167 of 20 December 2010,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[275]

*Recalling* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[276]

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[277]

*Recalling further* the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

*Stressing* the need to fulfil all financing for development commitments, including those contained in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[278] the Doha Declaration on

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[274] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[275] Resolution 55/2.

[276] Resolution 65/1.

[277] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[278] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[279] and other relevant outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

*Noting* that there have been systemic challenges to the global economic architecture demanding a review of global economic governance,

*Concerned* about the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change, which have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries, threaten to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap, and could further undermine the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Concerned also*, in this regard, that, in spite of some progress achieved in particular regions, some 200 million people globally are still unemployed and a further 900 million workers live with their families below the two-dollar-a-day poverty line,

*Underlining* the need for a more sustainable economic growth and recovery, and recognizing that this goal can be achieved through inclusive multilateralism and the equal participation of all countries, as envisioned, inter alia, in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

*Recognizing* that innovative and enhanced approaches to financing for development are needed to address the challenges posed by the current global economic situation, poverty and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and stressing that these approaches should neither be a substitute for nor negatively affect the level of traditional sources of development financing, including official development assistance, and that they need to be developed in a spirit of partnership, cooperation and solidarity, bearing in mind the common interests and national priorities of each country,

*Recognizing also* that many relevant aspects of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order have not been implemented and that, consequently, many developing countries continue to face significant challenges to their development prospects, including vulnerability to external shocks and lack of adequate representation in global economic governance,

*Recognizing further* the role played by regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as well as regional economic integration, based on equality of partnership, in strengthening international cooperation with the objective of facilitating economic coordination and cooperation for development, the achievement of development goals and the sharing of best practices and knowledge,

*Recognizing* that widespread financial deregulation has contributed to larger net capital outflows from developing countries to developed countries,

*Concerned* that excessively expansionary monetary policies and the ensuing competitive currency devaluations pursued by developed countries have an effect equivalent to across-the-board export subsidy and a generalized increase in import tariffs, which thus nullify or impair existing World Trade Organization market access commitments and further hinder the capacity of developing countries to fulfil their commitments to implement all the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Stressing* the need for policy space to allow the formulation of national development strategies by developing countries, aimed at bringing prosperity for all,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "International challenges for sustainable development: global policy coherence and the role of the United Nations";[280]

2. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;

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[279] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[280] A/67/274.

3. *Also reaffirms* the need to enhance the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

4. *Further reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, and reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

5. *Decides* to continue considering the international economic situation and its impact on development at its sixty-ninth session, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", an updated overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development and of the role of the United Nations in addressing these issues, as well as possible ways and means to overcome those challenges, bearing in mind the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the principles contained therein, and the preparations for the post-2015 development agenda, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order[281] and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.[282]

## RESOLUTION 67/218

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/439/Add.1, para. 10)[283]

### 67/218. Promoting transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/209 of 22 December 2011 and its previous resolutions on public administration and development,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[284]

*Acknowledging* that fiscal policies have a critical impact on economic, social and environmental outcomes in all countries at all levels of development,

*Emphasizing* the need to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of fiscal policies,

*Recognizing* the critical role that transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies can play in pursuit of financial stability, poverty reduction, equitable economic growth and the achievement of sustainable development,

*Recognizing also* that transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies should be promoted in a manner that is consistent with diverse country circumstances and national legislation,

1. *Takes note* of the Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency and its High-level Principles on Fiscal Transparency, Participation and Accountability of 2012;[285]

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[281] Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

[282] Resolution 3202 (S-VI).

[283] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[284] Resolution 55/2.

[285] Sponsored by the Governments of Brazil and the Philippines, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the International Budget Partnership.

2. *Encourages* Member States to intensify efforts to enhance transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies, including through the consideration of the principles set out by the Initiative, on a voluntary basis;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, in this regard, to promote discussions on advancing the common goal of transparent, participatory and accountable management of fiscal policies;

4. *Invites* Member States and relevant United Nations institutions to promote cooperation and information-sharing among all stakeholders to assist Member States in building capacity and exchanging experiences with regard to transparency, participation and accountability in fiscal policies.

## RESOLUTION 67/219

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/439/Add.2, para. 10),[286] by a recorded vote of 129 to 3, with 49 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

### 67/219. International migration and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008 and 65/170 of 20 December 2010 on international migration and development, as well as its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007 and 66/172 of 19 December 2011 on the protection of migrants, and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[287]

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[288] its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and recalling further the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[289]

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[286] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[287] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[288] Resolution 60/1.

[289] Resolution 65/1.

*Recalling further* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

*Recalling* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[290]

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[291] and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[292] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[292] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[293] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[294] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[295]

*Recalling* the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[296] and reiterating the call to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

*Recalling also* the importance of the Decent Work Agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

*Recalling further* the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 high-level dialogue on international migration and development,[297] and taking note of the summary by the President of the Assembly of the informal thematic debate on international migration and development held on 19 May 2011,[298]

*Acknowledging* that the 2006 high-level dialogue provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness of the issue,

*Acknowledging also* the contribution of the informal thematic debate, held in 2011, to the discussions on international migration and development,

*Recognizing* the contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches,

*Acknowledging* the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the international level, including at the United Nations, in relation to development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[299]

2. *Decides* to hold a two-day high-level dialogue on international migration and development on 3 and 4 October 2013, after the general debate of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, at United Nations Headquarters;

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[290] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[291] Resolution 217 A (III).

[292] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[293] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[294] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[295] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[296] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[297] A/61/515.

[298] A/65/944.

[299] A/67/254.

3. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the high-level dialogue shall be as follows:

(*a*) The overall theme of the high-level dialogue on international migration and development will be "Identifying concrete measures to strengthen coherence and cooperation at all levels, with a view to enhancing the benefits of international migration for migrants and countries alike and its important links to development, while reducing its negative implications";

(*b*) The high-level dialogue will consist of four plenary meetings and four interactive multi-stakeholder round tables:

(i) Round tables 1 and 2 will be held in the morning and afternoon of the first day of the high-level dialogue;

(ii) Round tables 3 and 4 will be held in the morning and afternoon of the second day of the high-level dialogue;

(iii) Summaries of the deliberations of the four round-table sessions will be presented orally by the chairs of the round-table sessions during the concluding plenary meeting of the high-level dialogue;

(*c*) The themes for each of the four round tables will be as follows:

(i) Round table 1 will focus on assessing the effects of international migration on sustainable development and identifying relevant priorities in view of the preparation of the post-2015 development framework;

(ii) Round table 2 will focus on measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of all migrants, with particular reference to women and children, as well as to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and to ensure orderly, regular and safe migration;

(iii) Round table 3 will focus on strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration, mechanisms to effectively integrate migration into development policies and promoting coherence at all levels;

(iv) Round table 4 will focus on international and regional labour mobility and its impact on development;

(*d*) Each of the four round tables will be co-chaired by two representatives, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly, with due regard for geographical balance, in consultation with regional groups;

4. *Further decides* that the participants in the high-level dialogue shall participate in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

5. *Invites* Member States and observers to participate in the high-level dialogue at the highest possible level;

6. *Invites* the Holy See and the State of Palestine, in their capacity as observer States, and the European Union, in its capacity as observer, to participate in the high-level dialogue and its preparatory process;

7. *Invites* all relevant entities of the United Nations system and relevant special rapporteurs and representatives, as well as the International Organization for Migration and other relevant international organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly, to contribute to the preparation of and participate in the high-level dialogue;

8. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant intergovernmental organizations and entities who may participate in the high-level dialogue, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical representation, and to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration in accordance with past practice;

9. *Also invites* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council who may participate in the high-level dialogue and the one-day informal interactive hearings provided for in paragraph 11 below;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work of the high-level dialogue;

11. *Decides* to hold one-day informal interactive hearings in 2013 with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, to be organized and presided over by the President of the General Assembly, and requests the President of the Assembly to prepare a summary of the hearings prior to the high-level dialogue in September 2013;

12. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and private sector entities who may participate in the high-level dialogue and the one-day informal interactive hearings, on the basis of recommendations by the Secretary-General in respect of their specific expertise and involvement in international migration and development issues, taking into account geographical representation; the list will be considered by the Member States on a non-objection basis no later than one month prior to the hearings provided for in paragraph 11 above;

13. *Decides* that representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, one from each grouping having been selected during the informal interactive hearings, are to be included by the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the high-level dialogue, time permitting, and also decides that the President of the Assembly, in consultation with Member States, shall determine the list of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector who can participate in each of the round tables of the high-level dialogue, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical representation;

14. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, with the assistance of the Secretariat and with support from interested Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders, to organize, prior to the high-level dialogue, a panel discussion with a focus on its overall theme, complementary to and taking into account other preparatory initiatives relating to the high-level dialogue;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with inputs from the members of the Global Migration Group and other relevant entities, to prepare a comprehensive overview of studies and analyses on the multidimensional aspects of migration and development, including the effects of migration on economic and social development in developed and developing countries;

16. *Invites* the regional commissions and their subregional offices, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as the International Organization for Migration and its Council, to organize discussions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with their respective mandates, to the preparatory process of the high-level dialogue;

17. *Invites* Member States, through appropriate regional consultative processes and, as appropriate, within other major initiatives in the field of international migration and development, including the Global Forum on Migration and Development, to contribute to the high-level dialogue;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "International migration and development";

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/220

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/440/Add.1, para. 14)[300]

### 67/220. Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Istanbul Declaration[301] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[302] adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action,

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[300] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[301] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[302] Ibid., chap. II.

*Reaffirming* the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of overcoming the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries in order to eradicate poverty, achieve internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the least developed country category,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[303]

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010,[304]

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/26 of 27 July 2012 on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 65/286 of 29 June 2011 on the importance of a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries, and reaffirming the aim of enabling half the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020,

*Taking note* of the ministerial declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 27 September 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011 to 2020[305] and the report of the Secretary-General on ensuring the effective implementation of the functions of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and strengthening its capabilities and its effectiveness, as well as the effectiveness of the United Nations system support provided to least developed countries;[306]

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment made by the international community in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[303] to assist the least developed countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable development, and also reaffirms the agreement to effectively implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[302] and to fully integrate its priority areas into the framework for action contained in the outcome document, the broader implementation of which will contribute to the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of enabling half the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020;

3. *Expresses serious concern* that, after a decade of welcomed steady economic growth, the least developed countries are facing significant challenges in sustaining their economic growth and their economies are projected to grow by an average of 4.1 per cent in 2012, which is considerably below the target of 7 per cent per annum as set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

4. *Expresses concern* that the ongoing impact of the economic and financial crisis demonstrates the need for appropriate regional and international support to be deployed in a timely and targeted manner to complement the efforts of the least developed countries aimed at building resilience in the face of economic shocks and mitigating their effects;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made by many least developed countries in mainstreaming the Istanbul Programme of Action into relevant planning documents and development strategies, and calls upon the least developed countries, with the support of their development partners, to fulfil their commitments and to continue their implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, including by integrating its provisions into their national

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[303] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[304] Resolution 65/1.

[305] A/67/88-E/2012/75 and Corr.1.

[306] A/67/262.

policies and development frameworks and conducting regular reviews with the full involvement of all key stakeholders, and in this regard invites the Office of the High Representative, the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, including United Nations regional and functional commissions, the United Nations resident coordinator system and the United Nations country teams to actively support the integration and implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action;

6. *Also welcomes* the progress in, and stresses the importance of, mainstreaming the Istanbul Programme of Action into the development cooperation frameworks of development partners, and calls upon the development partners to further integrate the Istanbul Programme of Action into their respective national cooperation policy frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure enhanced, predictable and targeted support to the least developed countries, as set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action, and the delivery of their commitments, and to consider appropriate measures to overcome shortfalls or shortcomings, if any;

7. *Invites* all organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations, including the Bretton Woods institutions and international and regional financial institutions, to contribute to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, including by implementing enhanced substantive and technical assistance to the least developed countries in a timely manner, and to integrate it into their programmes of work, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates, and to participate fully in its review at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

8. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet done so to designate specific focal points or organizational units within their secretariat structures with a view to ensuring consistent coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the programmes of action at the agency level;

9. *Calls upon* the developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to but not a substitute for North-South cooperation;

10. *Invites* the private sector, civil society and foundations to contribute to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in their respective areas of competence in line with the national priorities of the least developed countries;

11. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to fully and effectively implement in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner the commitments made in the Istanbul Programme of Action in its eight priority areas, namely, productive capacity; agriculture, food security and rural development; trade; commodities; human and social development; multiple crises and other emerging challenges; mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity-building; and good governance at all levels;

12. *Expresses concern* over the fall of official development assistance to least developed countries by 2 per cent in real terms in 2011, while noting that official development assistance continues to be the largest source of external financing for the development of least developed countries and plays an important role in their development, and that progress has been made during the past decade in increasing the flow of official development assistance to least developed countries, underlines that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieving the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015, as well as the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to least developed countries;

13. *Welcomes* steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid in least developed countries, and underlines the need for enhancing the quality of aid by strengthening national ownership, alignment, harmonization, predictability, mutual accountability and transparency and results orientation;

14. *Recalls* the commitment, contained in the Istanbul Programme of Action, that donor countries should review their official development assistance commitments in 2015 and consider further enhancing the resources for least developed countries;

15. *Also recalls* the decision, contained in the Istanbul Programme of Action, to adopt, expand and implement investment promotion regimes, as appropriate, for least developed countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, for its consideration at its sixty-ninth session, a report focusing on national policies and regulatory frameworks for stimulating foreign direct investment in least developed countries and outlining the options and modalities of investment promotion regimes for least developed countries;

16. *Stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of the least developed countries and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, to address the debt problem of those countries, including through the cancellation of the multilateral and bilateral debt owed by least developed countries to creditors, both public and private;

17. *Reiterates the call* for necessary flexibility and political will in order to break the impasse in the Doha Round of trade negotiations, and underlines the need for ensuring timely and effective implementation and operationalization of existing commitments to least developed countries on a lasting basis, such as duty-free, quota-free market access;

18. *Notes* the adoption by the General Council of the World Trade Organization on 25 July 2012 of the organization's guidelines on the accession of least developed countries;

19. *Underlines* the need for giving particular attention to the issues and concerns of the least developed countries in all major United Nations conferences and processes;

20. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include the issues of concern to the least developed countries in all relevant reports in the economic, social, environmental and related fields in order to support the implementation of the goals set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

21. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to undertake a joint gap and capacity analysis on a priority basis by 2013, with the aim of establishing a technology bank and science, technology and innovation supporting mechanism dedicated to the least developed countries, building on existing international initiatives;

22. *Underlines* the need to take the steps necessary to ensure the mutual accountability of the least developed countries and their development partners for delivering the commitments undertaken within the framework of the Istanbul Programme of Action;

23. *Recalls* that a smooth transition of countries graduating from least developed country status is vital in order to ensure that those countries are eased onto a path towards sustainable development without any abrupt disruption to their development plans, programmes and projects;

24. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the special needs and development priorities of the least developed countries, including those listed in the Istanbul Programme of Action, in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

25. *Stresses* the need for strengthened coordination and monitoring of and follow-up to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, with a view to ensuring effective and efficient implementation and follow-up mechanisms at the country, subregional, regional and global levels;

26. *Notes* the work of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group for least developed countries led by the Office of the High Representative, and invites the Secretary-General to appropriately integrate it within the framework of the High-level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in order to ensure necessary coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the programmes of action on a system-wide basis, and also invites the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the Chief Executives Board, to include implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action as a standing item on the agenda of the Board;

27. *Recognizes* that, over the years, the responsibilities of the Office of the High Representative have increased considerably in their scope and complexity and that, in addition to its original mandate, the requirement to provide substantive and technical support to the least developed countries has increased;

28. *Underlines* that the Office of the High Representative should be provided with adequate resources to fulfil its mandate for the timely and effective implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, and requests the

Secretary-General to address the allocation of adequate resources for the Office in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 for effective follow-up, monitoring and implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action;

29. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the Trust Fund in Support of Activities Undertaken by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to support the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action as well as the participation of the representatives from the least developed countries in the annual review meeting on the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council as well as in other relevant forums, and in this regard expresses its appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020.

## RESOLUTION 67/221

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/440/Add.1, para. 14)[307]

### 67/221. Smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Istanbul Declaration[308] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[309] adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, in which Member States committed to assisting the least developed countries with an overarching goal of enabling half of them to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020,

*Taking into account* its resolution 59/209 of 20 December 2004 on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/213 of 22 December 2011, in which it requested the President of the General Assembly to establish an ad hoc working group to further study and strengthen the smooth transition process for the countries graduating from the least developed country category and to submit a report to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session with specific recommendations, consistent with the Istanbul Programme of Action,

*Recalling also* its resolution 65/286 of 29 June 2011 on implementing the smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/32 of 27 July 2012 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its fourteenth session,

*Emphasizing* that graduation from the list of least developed countries is a major milestone for the country involved, as it means that significant progress has been made towards reaching at least some of its development goals,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the ad hoc working group to further study and strengthen the smooth transition process for the countries graduating from the least developed country category;[310]

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[307] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[308] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[309] Ibid., chap. II.

[310] A/67/92.

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011 to 2020,[311] especially section III on progress towards graduation and smooth transition;

3. *Reiterates* the importance of ensuring that the graduation of a country from least developed country status does not cause disruption in the development progress which that country has achieved, and in this regard recognizes that the graduation process of least developed countries should include consideration of appropriate incentives and support measures;

4. *Urges* graduating countries and all bilateral and multilateral development and trading partners to pursue or intensify their efforts, consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, to contribute to the full implementation of resolution 59/209, as appropriate, with a view to ensuring the smooth transition of graduating least developed countries;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of making available information about least developed country-specific support measures and related smooth transition measures in the areas of financial support, technical assistance and trade-related measures, including their time frames, characteristics and modalities;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance information-sharing and understanding of available least developed country-specific international support measures, their characteristics and modalities, commends in this regard the existence of the Support Measures Portal for Least Developed Countries, which was developed by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat as a valuable comprehensive tool for online information-sharing, and encourages its continuous updating and improvement;

7. *Emphasizes* that a successful transition needs to be based on the national smooth transition strategy elaborated as a priority by each graduating country, during the period between the date the recommendation that the country be graduated is taken note of by the General Assembly and the effective graduation date, under national leadership, involving, as appropriate, all stakeholders of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020[309] and the support of the international community, and that the national smooth transition strategy should include a comprehensive and coherent set of specific and predictable measures that are in accordance with the priorities of the graduating country while taking into account its own specific structural challenges and vulnerabilities as well as its strengths;

8. *Recommends* that the consultative mechanism specified in resolution 59/209 be established by the graduating country, in cooperation with its bilateral and multilateral development and trading partners, to facilitate the preparation of the transition strategy and the identification of the associated actions and the negotiation of their duration and phasing out for a period appropriate to the development situation of the country, and that it be integrated with other relevant consultative processes and initiatives between the graduating country and its development partners;

9. *Reiterates its call upon* development and trading partners of graduating countries to make efforts so that their bilateral and multilateral strategies and aid programmes support the national transition strategy of the respective country;

10. *Decides* to take note of the decisions of the Economic and Social Council regarding the graduation of countries from the list of least developed countries, as well as the inclusion of countries in that list, at the first session of the General Assembly following the adoption of such decisions by the Council;

11. *Invites* graduating and graduated countries to implement the smooth transition strategy as part of their overall development strategy and to incorporate it into relevant documents, including the poverty reduction strategy papers and the action matrix of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies under the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries;

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[311] A/67/88-E/2012/75 and Corr.1.

12. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as Chair of the United Nations Development Group, to provide, if requested, the support of the Resident Coordinator as a facilitator of the consultative process, and to assist graduating countries in the preparation of their transition strategies;

13. *Requests* the entities of the United Nations system to provide targeted assistance, including capacity-building, to graduating countries, if requested, through the United Nations country teams, in line with the existing mandates and resources, in support of the formulation and implementation of the national transition strategy;

14. *Invites* United Nations entities that have committed to allocating a certain percentage of their resources to least developed countries to consider the extension and gradual phasing out of least developed country-specific support to graduated countries for a fixed period of time in a predictable manner and applied according to the specific development situation of each graduating country;

15. *Invites* development and trading partners to consider the inclusion of trade-related technical assistance as part of the commitments to support each country's transition strategy in order to help graduating countries to adjust to the phasing out of trade preferences, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework, Aid for Trade or other instruments;

16. *Reiterates its invitation* to all members of the World Trade Organization to consider extending to graduated countries the existing special and differential treatment measures and exemptions available to least developed countries for a period appropriate to the development situation of the country;

17. *Invites* trading partners that have not established procedures for extending or phasing out preferential market access, inter alia, duty-free and quota-free treatment, to clarify in a predictable manner, as a general measure or at the consultative mechanism, their position with regard to the extension of the least developed country-specific preferences, the number of years of the extension or the details concerning the gradual phasing out of the measures;

18. *Invites* least developed country-specific funds of the United Nations system to continue providing technical assistance to graduated countries in a manner that phases out over a limited period of time, and as appropriate to the development situation of the country, from within existing resources;

19. *Encourages* organizations of the United Nations system to extend voluntary travel benefits to graduated countries for a period appropriate to the development situation of the country from within existing resources and for a maximum of three years from the date of graduation;

20. *Invites* the Governments of graduating countries, with the support of the consultative mechanism, to report annually to the Committee for Development Policy on the preparation of the transition strategy and, after graduation becomes effective, to provide concise annual reports on the implementation of the smooth transition strategy for a period of three years, and triennially thereafter, as a complement to the two triennial reviews of the list of least developed countries carried out by the Committee;

21. *Requests* the Committee for Development Policy to monitor the development progress of graduated countries, in consultation with the Governments of those countries, on a yearly basis for a period of three years after graduation becomes effective, and triennially thereafter, as a complement to two triennial reviews of the list of least developed countries, and to include its findings in its annual report to the Economic and Social Council;

22. *Encourages* least developed countries to interact with graduated countries in order to obtain information on and discuss their experiences and share lessons learned in the context of graduation with support from the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

23. *Invites* development partners to consider least developed country indicators, gross national income per capita, the human assets index and the economic vulnerability index as part of their criteria for allocating official development assistance;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a progress report on the implementation, the effectiveness and the added value of smooth transition measures, including initiatives taken by the United Nations system to support countries during their graduation from the least developed country category.

## RESOLUTION 67/222

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/440/Add.2, para. 9)[312]

### 67/222. Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Almaty Declaration[313] and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[314]

*Recalling also* its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003, 60/208 of 22 December 2005, 61/212 of 20 December 2006, 62/204 of 19 December 2007, 63/228 of 19 December 2008, 64/214 of 21 December 2009, 65/172 of 20 December 2010 and 66/214 of 22 December 2011,

*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[315]

*Recalling* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[316]

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[317]

*Recalling further* its resolution 63/2 of 3 October 2008, by which it adopted the declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,

*Taking note* of the Almaty Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Fourth Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 12 September 2012,[318]

*Taking note also* of the outcome documents of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Doha from 21 to 26 April 2012,[319] and of the Ministerial Communiqué of the Landlocked Developing Countries adopted within the framework of that session,[320]

*Taking note further* of the communiqué of the Eleventh Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 26 September 2012,[321]

*Recognizing* that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and high transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socioeconomic development,

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[312] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[313] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.

[314] Ibid., annex I.

[315] Resolution 55/2.

[316] Resolution 65/1.

[317] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[318] A/67/386, annex.

[319] TD/500 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2.

[320] TD/474.

[321] A/67/495, annex.

*Recognizing also* that the primary responsibility for establishing effective transit systems rests with landlocked and transit developing countries,

*Reaffirming* that the Almaty Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/214, in which it decided to hold a comprehensive 10-year review conference on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2014, which should be preceded, where necessary, by regional and global as well as thematic preparations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries";[322]

2. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

3. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

4. *Calls upon* landlocked and transit developing countries to take all appropriate measures, as set out in the declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,[323] to speed up the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[314] and calls upon landlocked developing countries to take greater ownership of the Almaty Programme of Action by further mainstreaming it into their national development strategies;

5. *Calls upon* development partners and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate, substantial and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance, particularly in the form of grants or concessionary loans, for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

6. *Reaffirms its full commitment* to urgently address the special development needs of and the challenges faced by landlocked developing countries through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, as contained in the declaration on the midterm review;

7. *Invites* Member States, including development partners, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, to speed up further the implementation of the specific actions in the five priorities agreed upon in the Almaty Programme of Action and those contained in the declaration on the midterm review, in a better-coordinated manner, in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes, completion of missing links and improved communications and energy infrastructure, so as to enhance intraregional connectivity, and strengthen analytical capacities to assist in the development and implementation of coherent and comprehensive transport policies to support the transit corridors needed to facilitate trade, and in this regard encourages enhanced regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation which offers more appropriate, direct and effective solutions in addressing landlocked and transit country issues;

8. *Expresses concern* that the economic growth and social well-being of landlocked developing countries remain highly vulnerable to external shocks and to the multiple challenges faced by the international community, and invites the international community to assist landlocked developing countries in strengthening their resilience and in protecting the advances made towards the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action;

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[322] A/67/210.

[323] Resolution 63/2.

9. *Encourages* the relevant international organizations, including the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and the United Nations regional commissions, as well as relevant research institutions, to assist the landlocked developing countries, as appropriate, in undertaking research on the vulnerability of landlocked developing countries to external shocks, through the development of a set of vulnerability indicators that can be used by the landlocked developing countries for early warning purposes;

10. *Underlines* the importance of international trade and trade facilitation as one of the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action, notes that the ongoing negotiations of the World Trade Organization on trade facilitation are particularly important for landlocked developing countries to gain a more efficient flow of goods and services as well as improved international competitiveness resulting from lower transaction costs, and calls upon the international community to ensure that the agreement on trade facilitation in the final outcome of the Doha Round fulfils the objective of lowering transaction costs by, inter alia, reducing transport time and enhancing certainty in transborder trade;

11. *Calls upon* development partners to effectively implement the Aid for Trade initiative, giving adequate consideration to the special needs and requirements of landlocked developing countries, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as the diversification of export products through private sector involvement, including the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets;

12. *Recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries are still reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition, and encourages the international community to enhance efforts to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base, to encourage, on mutually agreed terms, the transfer of technologies related to transit transport systems, including information and communications technology, and to enhance value addition to their exports through the development of their productive capacities;

13. *Encourages* the further strengthening of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations, in support of the efforts of landlocked and transit developing countries towards achieving the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

14. *Underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private sector involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, and in this regard encourages Member States to facilitate foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries and calls upon landlocked and transit developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private sector involvement;

15. *Recognizes* that broader and more effective cooperation among landlocked developing countries and between landlocked and transit developing countries is necessary to ensure a harmonized approach to the design, implementation and monitoring of trade and transport facilitation policy reforms across borders, and in this regard encourages landlocked and transit developing countries to ratify and effectively implement, as appropriate, international conventions and agreements and regional and subregional agreements on transport and trade facilitation;

16. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and invites other international organizations, including the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization, regional economic integration organizations and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, to further integrate the Almaty Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work, taking full account of the declaration on the midterm review, and encourages them to continue, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, their support to landlocked and transit developing countries, through, inter alia, well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport and trade facilitation;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States, including development partners, and the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, in providing infrastructure development and connectivity and the integration of regional rail and road networks and in strengthening the legal frameworks of landlocked and transit developing countries, encourages them to continue providing their support, and in this regard welcomes the ongoing efforts made by the Office of the High Representative and the Economic Commission for Africa, in cooperation

with the African Union Commission and other relevant international and regional organizations, towards assisting in the elaboration of the intergovernmental agreement on the Trans-African Highway;

18. *Urges* those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to accede to or to ratify, at their earliest convenience, the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries in order to bring the think tank to full operation, and invites the Office of the High Representative and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, Member States, including development partners, and relevant international and regional organizations to support the think tank so that it can undertake its role;

19. *Notes* the outcome of the high-level global thematic meeting on international trade, trade facilitation and aid for trade, held in Almaty on 13 and 14 September 2012 as part of the preparatory process for the comprehensive 10-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

20. *Decides* to convene, as called for by the General Assembly in paragraph 21 of its resolution 66/214, the comprehensive 10-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, in 2014, at the highest possible level, for a duration of three days, in the most cost-effective manner, at a venue and time to be determined in consultation with the host Government, with the following mandate:

(*a*) To undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries;

(*b*) To identify effective international, regional, subregional and national policies in the area of international trade and transit transport cooperation and to review the current situation of transit transport systems in the light of new and emerging challenges, partnerships and opportunities and the means to address them;

(*c*) To reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special development needs of and the challenges faced by the landlocked developing countries as called for at major United Nations conferences and summits;

(*d*) To mobilize international support and action by and in favour of the landlocked developing countries and formulate and adopt a renewed development partnership framework for the next decade;

21. *Also decides* that the sessions of the intergovernmental preparatory committee envisaged by the General Assembly in paragraph 22 of its resolution 66/214 will be held in New York in January and April 2014, each for a duration of two working days, in the most cost-effective manner;

22. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative, as the United Nations system-wide focal point for the preparations for the Review Conference, pursuant to resolution 66/214, to ensure effective, efficient and timely preparations for the Conference and to further mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system;

23. *Requests* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and invites other international organizations, including the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization, the International Road Transport Union, regional economic integration organizations and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide necessary support and actively contribute to the preparatory process and to the Review Conference itself;

24. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference and the participation of representatives of the landlocked developing countries in both the preparatory process and the Review Conference itself;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of the contributions and participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to the Review Conference and its preparatory process;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative, to take the necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives to enhance public awareness in favour of the Review Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and its significance;

27. *Requests* the executive secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, in close coordination and cooperation with the Office of the High Representative, to provide the necessary substantive and organizational arrangements and to organize the preparatory review meetings at the regional level in 2013;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and on the progress made in the preparatory process for the Review Conference;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", a sub-item entitled "Comprehensive 10-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action".

## RESOLUTION 67/223

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/441, para. 11)[324]

### 67/223. Promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[325]

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[326] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[327] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[328] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[329] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[330] the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[331] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals[332] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[333] as well as the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

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[324] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Yemen.

[325] Resolution 60/1.

[326] Resolution 55/2.

[327] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[328] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[329] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[330] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[331] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[332] Resolution 65/1.

[333] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Recalling further* its resolutions 53/200 of 15 December 1998 entitled "Proclamation of 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism", 65/148 of 20 December 2010 entitled "Global Code of Ethics for Tourism" and 66/196 of 22 December 2011 entitled "Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America",

*Recalling* its resolution 65/173 of 20 December 2010 entitled "Promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection",

*Stressing* that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing its economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

*Stressing also* that ecotourism is a cross-cutting activity that can, within the framework of sustainable tourism, contribute to the fight against poverty, the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development,

*Stressing further* the role of ecotourism in promoting rural development and better living conditions of sustainable rural populations,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism worldwide,

*Welcoming also* the efforts of the Marrakech Process on sustainable consumption and production, the achievements of the International Task Force on Sustainable Tourism Development and the objectives of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism, launched in 2011 as a permanent successor to the International Task Force,

*Noting* the initiatives launched and the events organized at the subregional, regional and international levels in the field of ecotourism and sustainable development,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;[334]

2. *Recognizes* that the development of ecotourism, within the framework of sustainable tourism, can have a positive impact on income generation, job creation and education, and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger, and can contribute directly to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Also recognizes* the potential of ecotourism to reduce poverty by improving individual livelihoods in local communities and to generate resources for community development projects;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to optimize the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits stemming from ecotourism activities in all countries, particularly developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States;

5. *Also emphasizes* that ecotourism can contribute to sustainable development, in particular environment protection, and improve the well-being of local and indigenous communities;

6. *Recognizes* that ecotourism creates significant opportunities for the conservation, protection and sustainable use of biodiversity and of natural areas by encouraging local and indigenous communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage;

7. *Underlines*, in this regard, the importance of establishing, at the national level, where necessary, appropriate policies, guidelines and regulations, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, for promoting and supporting ecotourism, within the framework of sustainable tourism, and minimizing its potential negative impact;

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[334] See A/67/228.

8. *Invites* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to highlight and support best practices in relation to the implementation of relevant policies, guidelines and regulations in the ecotourism sector and to implement and disseminate existing guidelines;

9. *Encourages* governments at all levels to use ecotourism, within the framework of sustainable tourism, as a tool to support poverty alleviation, environment protection and/or biodiversity conservation, and to base the tourism components on clear evidence of market demand and a sound economic base;

10. *Encourages* Member States to promote investment in ecotourism, in accordance with their national legislation, which may include creating small and medium-sized enterprises, promoting cooperatives and facilitating access to finance through inclusive financial services, including microcredit initiatives for the poor, local and indigenous communities in areas with high ecotourism potential, including rural areas;

11. *Underlines* the importance of conducting an environmental impact assessment, in accordance with national legislation, for the development of ecotourism opportunities;

12. *Stresses* that indigenous cultures, traditions and knowledge, in all their aspects, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted in ecotourism policy development, within the framework of sustainable tourism, and underlines the importance of promoting the full and early participation and involvement of local and indigenous communities in decisions that affect them and of integrating indigenous and local knowledge, heritage and values in any such ecotourism initiatives, as appropriate;

13. *Emphasizes* the need for effective measures in the context of ecotourism initiatives to ensure the full empowerment of women, including equal participation of women and men at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, in the context of the global campaign for the Millennium Development Goals, to promote ecotourism, within the framework of sustainable tourism, as an instrument that can contribute to achieving those Goals, in particular the Goals of eradicating extreme poverty and of ensuring environmental sustainability, and to support the efforts and policies of developing countries in this field;

15. *Encourages* the regional and international financial institutions to provide adequate support to programmes and projects related to ecotourism, taking into account the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits of such activities;

16. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, in particular the World Tourism Organization, United Nations bodies and other organizations, to provide technical assistance to Governments, upon request, to assist, as appropriate, in strengthening legislative or policy frameworks for ecotourism and their implementation in the context of sustainable tourism, including those for environment protection and the conservation of natural and cultural heritage;

17. *Invites* all stakeholders to cooperate in supporting, as appropriate, local and indigenous community participation in ecotourism activities;

18. *Invites* the public and private sectors and relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request, assistance for capacity-building, developing specific guidelines and awareness-raising materials and training for people involved in the ecotourism sector, such as language training and training in specific skills in tourism services, as well as to develop or strengthen partnerships, especially in protected areas, within the framework of sustainable tourism;

19. *Recognizes* the role of North-South cooperation in promoting ecotourism as a means to achieve economic growth, to reduce inequalities and to improve living standards in developing countries, and also recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation, as complements to North-South cooperation, have potential for promoting ecotourism;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization and other relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on ways and means to promote ecotourism as a tool for fighting poverty and promoting sustainable development, taking into account relevant reports prepared by the World Tourism Organization in this field.

## RESOLUTION 67/224

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/441/Add.1, para. 6)[335]

### 67/224. Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 66/215 of 22 December 2011 and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[336] as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day[337] and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

*Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome[338] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[339]

*Recalling* the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[340] adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries with a main aim of enabling half the number of the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020,

*Recalling also* its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council and its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 entitled "Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development",

*Taking note with appreciation* of the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council on creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development,[341] and also Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/37 of 28 July 2011 entitled "Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact",

*Recalling* the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[342]

*Recalling also* the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[343] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[344]

*Recalling further* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in 2010, and its outcome document,[345]

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[335] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[336] Resolution 55/2.

[337] United Nations reports on the Millennium Development Goals have been using, since 2008, a poverty line of 1.25 United States dollars a day.

[338] Resolution 60/1.

[339] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[340] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[341] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 50.

[342] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[343] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[344] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[345] Resolution 65/1.

*Expressing deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on development, including on the capacity of developing countries to mobilize resources for development, recognizing that there is a need to promote recovery, and acknowledging that an effective response to the impacts of the crisis requires the timely implementation of all development commitments, including existing aid commitments,

*Concerned* that, midway into the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), while there has been progress in reducing poverty, especially in some middle-income countries, such progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

*Recognizing* that rates of economic growth vary among countries and that these differences must be addressed by, among other actions, promoting pro-poor growth and social protection,

*Concerned* at the global nature of poverty and inequality, and underlining the fact that the eradication of poverty and hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of all humankind,

*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa, in least developed countries and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment generation and decent work for all,

*Reaffirming also* that women make significant contributions to the economy, that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequality through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

*Recognizing* that the difficult socioeconomic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have contributed to the feminization of poverty,

*Recognizing also* that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recognizing further* the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and to pursue sustainable development,

*Acknowledging* that good governance at the national and international levels and sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work for all, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment,

*Underlining* the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

*Recalling* the 2012 annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council, held in July, on the theme "Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals",[346]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), under the theme "Full employment and decent work for all";[347]

2. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, relating to the eradication of poverty and to coordinate international support to that end;

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[346] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/67/3/Rev.1), sect. IV.C.

[347] A/67/180.

3. *Also reaffirms* that poverty eradication is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and in this regard commits itself to freeing humanity from poverty and hunger as a matter of urgency;

4. *Further reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership strategies and sovereignty;

5. *Calls upon* the international community, including Member States, to urgently take measures to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger because of their negative impacts on social, economic and political development;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

7. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development and its role at the regional level, which is critical for the eradication of poverty;

8. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of regional, subregional and interregional cooperation can have a catalytic impact on poverty eradication efforts and offers many benefits, including the exchange of best policies, experiences and technical expertise, the mobilization of resources and the expansion of economic opportunities and conditions favourable to job creation;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, addressing the root causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at all levels, and calls upon donor countries in a position to do so to support effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard through adequate, predictable financial resources on bilateral and multilateral bases;

10. *Stresses* the importance of public-private partnerships in a wide range of areas, with the aim of eradicating poverty and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, as appropriate;

11. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and also reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, while taking into full account the social and environmental impact and dimensions of globalization, and that these concepts are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

12. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, and in this regard recognizes the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in coordinating the Education for All partners and in promoting the development of sector-wide education policies by, inter alia, elaborating pedagogical tools for grass-roots organizations and policymakers;

13. *Recognizes* the role of other specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, including the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme, in contributing to international advocacy for eradicating poverty, including through education and training;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to fulfil all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and to reach a level of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2010, as well as a target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries;

15. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[348] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and managing for results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

16. *Recognizes* the urgent need to address poverty, hunger and food security, and encourages the international community to enhance international cooperation in support of agricultural and rural development and food production and productivity, including of smallholder producers, in developing countries, particularly in least developed countries;

17. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, the private sector, relevant institutions, foundations and individuals to strengthen United Nations funding for the eradication of poverty through voluntary contributions to existing poverty-related system-wide funds;[349]

18. *Recognizes* that sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment and by ensuring greater coherence among macroeconomic, trade and social policies at all levels;

19. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of inequalities on poverty, emphasizes the importance of improving access to quality education, health care and social protection;

20. *Recognizes* that poverty is multidimensional, and invites national Governments, supported by the international community, to consider developing complementary measures that better reflect this multidimensionality;

21. *Invites* all stakeholders, including Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices relating to programmes and policies that address inequalities for the benefit of those living in extreme poverty and promote the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies, with the aim of accelerating progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and informing the discussions on the way forward after 2015, takes note in this regard of the outcomes of the Millennium Development Goals follow-up meeting, held in Tokyo on 2 and 3 June 2011, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his annual report on progress in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals a compilation of such good practices;

22. *Reiterates its call upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to consider activities to implement the Second Decade, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

23. *Recalls* the inter-agency system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication involving more than 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and requests the Secretary-General to provide details on the implementation of the plan of action to Member States;

24. *Reaffirms* the need to give the highest priority to its consideration of the question of poverty eradication, and in this regard reiterates its decision, in resolution 63/230 of 19 December 2008, as a contribution to the Second Decade, to convene at its sixty-eighth session a meeting of the General Assembly, at the highest appropriate political level, centred on the review process devoted to the theme relating to the issue of poverty eradication, and stresses that the meeting and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 2012–2013 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner;

25. *Notes with concern* the continuing high levels of unemployment and underemployment, particularly among young people, as a consequence of the global financial and economic crisis, recognizes that decent work for

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[348] A/63/539, annex.

[349] Such as the World Solidarity Fund, the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund, the Thematic Trust Fund for Poverty Reduction and the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security.

all remains one of the best routes out of poverty, and in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in adopting policies consistent with the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development;

26. *Urges* Member States to address the global challenge of youth unemployment by developing and implementing strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work, and in this context stresses the need for the development of a global strategy on youth employment, building upon, inter alia, the Global Jobs Pact and the call for action of the International Labour Organization;

27. *Encourages* the international community to support developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty and promote empowerment of the poor and people in vulnerable situations, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, improving access to finance, microfinance and credit, removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, complemented by national efforts on effective social policies, including social protection floors, and in this regard takes note of International Labour Organization Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection;

28. *Urges* the international community, including the United Nations system, to implement the outcome documents relating to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

29. *Also urges* the international community, including the United Nations system, to implement the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development[350] in support of the objectives of the Second Decade;

30. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to support Member States, at their request, in strengthening their macroeconomic policy capacity and national development strategies so as to contribute to achieving the objectives of the Second Decade;

31. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant stakeholders to address poverty eradication in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

32. *Encourages* greater inter-agency convergence and collaboration within the United Nations system in sharing knowledge, promoting policy dialogue, facilitating synergies, mobilizing funds, providing technical assistance in the key policy areas underlying the decent work agenda and strengthening system-wide policy coherence on employment issues, including by avoiding duplication of effort;

33. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/225

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/441/Add.2, para. 8)[351]

### 67/225. Industrial development cooperation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/108 of 19 December 1994, 51/170 of 16 December 1996, 53/177 of 15 December 1998, 55/187 of 20 December 2000, 57/243 of 20 December 2002, 59/249 of 22 December 2004, 61/215 of

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[350] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[351] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

20 December 2006, 63/231 of 19 December 2008 and 65/175 of 20 December 2010 on industrial development cooperation, and its resolution 65/151 of 20 December 2010 designating 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[352] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[353] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[354]

*Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome[355] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

*Recalling* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[356]

*Recognizing* the importance of achieving sustainable development in a comprehensive manner, integrating the economic, social and environmental dimensions,

*Stressing* that industrial development comprises more than the development of the manufacturing sector alone, encompassing aspects of energy, agro-industry, infrastructure and logistics, science, technology and innovation and human resources development and education, as well as the development of the mining sector,

*Recalling* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, by which the Assembly adopted the outcome document of the meeting,

*Recognizing* that industrialization is an essential driver of sustained inclusive and equitable economic growth, sustainable development and poverty and hunger eradication in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and African countries, through, inter alia, the creation of decent productive employment, income generation and the facilitation of social integration, including the integration of women and youth into the economic growth process, and that it plays a key role in maintaining social stability and cohesion,

*Stressing* the importance of international industrial cooperation to promote equitable and sustainable patterns of industrial development and to address major challenges such as poverty eradication, growth and jobs, resource efficiency, energy, pollution and climate change, shifting demographics, knowledge creation and transfer and the narrowing of growing inequalities,

*Recognizing* the role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector, underlining the importance of the benefits of foreign direct investment in that process, and recognizing also in this regard that an enabling national environment is vital for mobilizing national resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector and making effective use of international investment and assistance and that efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community,

*Recognizing also* the important and positive role of micro, small and medium-sized enterprise clusters and organizations in the social and solidarity economy field, including cooperatives, as vehicles for promoting small-scale industry and for the implementation of the development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in fields such as employment policy, social integration, regional and rural development, agriculture and environmental protection,

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[352] Resolution 55/2.

[353] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[354] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[355] Resolution 60/1.

[356] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Underscoring* the importance of the transfer of technology and knowledge networking on mutually agreed terms to developing countries as an effective means of international cooperation in the pursuit of the eradication of poverty and hunger and of sustainable development,

*Noting* the important role played by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, including in the development of the public and private sectors, productivity growth, trade capacity-building, corporate social responsibility, environmental protection, energy access, energy efficiency, the promotion of renewable sources of energy and the implementation of energy interconnection initiatives among developing countries,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;[357]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of industrial development cooperation for, inter alia, the strengthening of productive capacities and the creation of decent jobs in developing countries, in particular in favour of women, youth and vulnerable communities, the development of the private sector and entrepreneurship, the fostering of technological change and innovation, trade capacity-building, the promotion of agro-industry, training, education, resource-efficient and cleaner production, an enabling environment for the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and knowledge transfer and networking;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to promote, in the context of industrial development, gender equality and the empowerment of women at all levels and in decision-making processes;

4. *Reaffirms* the essential contribution of industrial development to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Stresses* that the lack of a dynamic industrial and manufacturing sector is one of the factors that can lead to a widening of the income gap between rich and poor and to the erosion of social protection nets;

6. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the issue of industrial development cooperation in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

7. *Emphasizes* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own industrial development, that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process and that the role of national policies, resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

8. *Also emphasizes* that national efforts should be supported by development partners, as appropriate, and need to be complemented by a rules-based multilateral trading system that facilitates trade and provides opportunities for developing countries to broaden their competitive export base by strengthening their capacities and facilitating the structural transformation and diversification of their economies, which can help to promote economic growth and development;

9. *Further emphasizes* that, in order to create the right environment for sustainable industrial development, the international community and the private sector, as appropriate, should accelerate measures to facilitate the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries;

10. *Emphasizes* the mutually reinforcing linkages between the quality and scope of national public services provided for the realization of economic and social rights and long-term sustained economic growth associated with energy and material efficiency gains in productive sectors;

11. *Recognizes* the key role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in promoting sustainable industrial development and industrial innovation and mainstreaming science and technology into national productive systems, and welcomes its clear programmatic focus on three thematic priorities, namely, poverty reduction through productive activities, trade capacity-building, and environment and energy;

12. *Underlines* the importance of promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth through industrial means and through adequate national and regional strategies;

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[357] See A/67/223.

13. *Recognizes* that the mobilization of financial resources for development and the effective use of all of those resources are central to the global partnership for development, including in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and also recognizes that the mobilization of national and international resources and an enabling national and international environment are key drivers for development;

14. *Notes* the importance placed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, through, inter alia, its centres for South-South industrial cooperation and through the promotion of various forms of public and private partnerships and the exchange of experience in private sector development at the global, regional, subregional and country levels;

15. *Also notes* the continued cooperation of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization with the entities of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, as well as its active role in the UN-Energy mechanism;

16. *Invites* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to build and strengthen its partnerships with other United Nations organizations with complementary mandates and activities, as well as with other entities, including in the private sector and civil society, with a view to achieving greater effectiveness and development impact and promoting increased coherence within the United Nations system;

17. *Notes* the development challenges highlighted by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, including economic growth and employment and decent work for all, food security and nutrition, resource efficiency, energy, pollution and climate change, which include growing inequalities, and the need for knowledge creation, transfer of technology and capacity-building in developing countries, which should be addressed through industrial development cooperation;

18. *Also notes* the importance placed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on technology transfer and knowledge networking as means to achieve sustainable industrial development;

19. *Welcomes* the ongoing support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[358] the African Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and other programmes of the African Union aimed at further strengthening the industrialization process in Africa through, inter alia, its role as the convener of the industry, trade and market access cluster of the regional consultation meetings led by the Economic Commission for Africa;

20. *Emphasizes* the importance of regional cooperation for industrial development, and calls upon the international community and the relevant international and regional organizations to provide support for this cooperation;

21. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to assist developing countries, including the least developed countries and African countries, in participating in productive activities through, inter alia, the development of agro-industry and agribusiness, the promotion of South-South cooperation and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, its diffusion and adoption, building to engage in international trade through small and medium-sized enterprise development and support, as appropriate, in meeting international product and process standards, and the integration of women and youth into the development process;

22. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as a platform for international industrial cooperation aiming to promote investments and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms to disseminate good policies and practices as well as to foster job creation, including for youth and women;

23. *Calls upon* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to play an active role in implementing the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development and General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 on system-wide coherence;

24. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to support developing countries, upon request, in achieving sustainable development, including through support for policies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and to promote environmentally sound and sustainable production,

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[358] A/57/304, annex.

including through programmes on cleaner production, industrial water management, industrial energy efficiency and the utilization of efficient, modern and affordable forms of energy for productive use, especially in rural areas, through continued cooperation with United Nations organizations and other organizations in order to support the achievement of multilateral environmental agreements and promote global goals on access to modern forms of energy, on energy efficiency and on renewable energy;

25. *Recalls* in this regard the celebration of the Vienna Energy Forum 2011, which facilitated the international dialogue towards, inter alia, enhanced political support for the energy access agenda;

26. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to strengthen its role in assisting developing countries to create and disseminate knowledge by, inter alia, making use of its global network of centres for investment and technology promotion, resource-efficient and cleaner production and South-South cooperation, as well as through its Institute for Capacity Development and Networks for Prosperity initiative;

27. *Reiterates* the importance of promoting the creation and development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises as a strategy for achieving industrial development, economic dynamism and poverty and hunger eradication, including through the mobilization of resources and measures to foster sustainable and inclusive development;

28. *Acknowledges* the importance of reporting on corporate sustainability, and encourages companies, where appropriate, especially publicly listed and large companies, to consider integrating sustainability information into their reporting cycle, and encourages industry, interested Governments and relevant stakeholders, with the support of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to develop models for best practices and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, taking into account experiences from already existing frameworks and paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including for capacity-building;

29. *Stresses* the importance of the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within its mandate, to support the efforts of middle-income countries to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities and achieve their development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to achieve sustainable development;

30. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to develop its effectiveness in each of its four capacities of technical cooperation, research and analysis, normative assistance and global forum activities, with the aim of enhancing the quality of the services it provides to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/226

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/442/Add.1, para. 9)[359]

### 67/226. Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 52/203 of 18 December 1997, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 53/192 of 15 December 1998, 56/201 of 21 December 2001, 59/250 of 22 December 2004, 62/208 of 19 December 2007 and 64/289 of 2 July 2010, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2008/2 of 18 July 2008, 2009/1 of 22 July 2009, 2010/22 of 23 July 2010 and 2011/7 of 18 July 2011, which should be considered as an integral part of the present resolution, and other relevant resolutions,

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[359] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

*Reaffirming* the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

*Reaffirming also* the need to strengthen the United Nations with a view to enhancing its coherence and efficiency, as well as its capacity to address effectively, and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the full range of development challenges of our time,

*Recalling* the commitment of Member States to enhance the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and credibility of the United Nations system as a shared goal and interest,

*Noting* the efforts made by Member States to enhance the ownership of their own development processes, including by those countries that have voluntarily adopted the "Delivering as one" initiative on a pilot or self-starter basis,

*Recalling* the need to provide the United Nations system with adequate and timely resources with a view to enabling it to carry out its mandates in a coherent, effective and efficient manner,

*Recalling also* the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 61/16 of 20 November 2006 and 65/285 of 29 June 2011,

*Recalling further* the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, such as the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000,[360] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development of 2002,[361] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation) of 2002,[362] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[363] its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals of 22 September 2010,[364] the outcome documents of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries of 2011[365] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development of 2012, entitled "The future we want",[366]

*Recognizing* the vital role played by these conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives which have contributed to our understanding of, and our actions to overcome, the challenges to improving human life in different parts of the world,

*Recognizing also* the need for the United Nations development system to continue to adapt and respond to evolving challenges and opportunities for development cooperation,

*Reaffirming* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

*Recognizing* that the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, offer a framework for planning, reviewing and assessing the activities of the United Nations for development,

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[360] Resolution 55/2.

[361] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales. No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[362] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[363] Resolution 60/1.

[364] Resolution 65/1.

[365] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

[366] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Recognizing also* that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, and reaffirming that development is a central goal in itself and that it constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of the United Nations operational activities for development,

*Reaffirming* the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, including the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality, women's empowerment and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development,

*Reaffirming also* that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained and inclusive economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

*Recognizing* that the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can positively contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and encouraging their further contribution in supporting national development efforts in accordance with national plans and priorities,

*Reiterating* the importance of the development of national capacities to eradicate poverty and pursue sustained and equitable economic growth and sustainable development as a central goal of the development cooperation of the United Nations system,

*Recognizing* the multidimensional challenges of countries affected by natural disasters and conflicts that are in transition from relief to development, while noting that development rarely, if ever, happens in a linear fashion,

*Recognizing also* the need to tailor the operational activities of the United Nations to the specific challenges faced by the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and low- and middle-income countries, as well as the special needs of Africa,

## I

## Introduction

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system[367] and the analysis of funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2010;[368]

2. *Takes note* of the relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit;[369]

3. *Notes* the advances that the United Nations development system is making in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208, and calls upon the United Nations system to accelerate its full implementation, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Reaffirms* that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development;

5. *Underscores* that there is no "one size fits all" approach to development and that development assistance by the United Nations development system should be able to respond to the varying development needs of programme countries and should be in alignment with their national development plans and strategies in accordance with its mandates;

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[367] A/67/93-E/2012/79 and A/67/320-E/2012/89.

[368] A/67/94-E/2012/80.

[369] See A/64/375-E/2009/103 and Corr.1, A/65/71, A/65/394, A/66/308, A/66/348, A/66/380, A/66/710 and A/66/717.

6. *Recognizes* that the strength of the United Nations operational system lies in its legitimacy, at the country level, as a neutral, objective and trusted partner for both programme countries and donor countries;

7. *Stresses* that national Governments have the primary responsibility for their countries' development and for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to effectively integrate such assistance into their development processes;

8. *Emphasizes* that the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be valued and assessed on the basis of their impact on the programme countries as contributions to enhance the capacity of those countries to pursue poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

9. *Decides* that, with the agreement and consent of the host country, the United Nations development system should assist national Governments in creating an enabling environment in which the links and cooperation between national Governments, the United Nations development system, civil society, national non-governmental organizations and the private sector that are involved in the development process are strengthened, including, as appropriate, during the United Nations Development Assistance Framework preparation process, with a view to seeking new and innovative solutions to development problems in accordance with national policies and priorities;

10. *Recognizes* the important role and comparative advantage of the United Nations development system in supporting national efforts, accelerating progress on the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, addressing all development challenges, including inequality, supporting the poor and people in vulnerable situations and advancing the integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development;

11. *Stresses* the need to make the United Nations development system more relevant, coherent, efficient and effective in its support to developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, on the basis of their national development priorities and strategies, and also stresses that reform efforts should enhance organizational efficiency, achieve concrete development results and strengthen the accountability and transparency of the system to Member States;

12. *Requests* the United Nations development system to continue its efforts to respond to national development plans, policies and priorities, which constitute the only viable frame of reference for programming operational activities at the country level, on the basis of national ownership and leadership, and to pursue full integration of operational activities for development at the country level with national planning and programming, under the leadership of national Governments, at all stages of the process, while ensuring the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, at all levels, as appropriate;

13. *Recognizes* that strengthening the role and capacity of the United Nations development system to assist countries in achieving their development goals requires continuing improvement in its effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact, along with a significant increase in resources and an expansion of its resource base on a continuous, more predictable and assured basis;

14. *Also recognizes* that sustainable development should be given due consideration by the programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other relevant entities, such as international financial institutions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective existing mandates, and in this regard invites them to further enhance the mainstreaming of sustainable development into their respective mandates, programmes, strategies and decision-making processes in support of the efforts of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the achievement of sustainable development;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to improve the management of facilities and operations by taking into account sustainable development practices, building on existing efforts and promoting cost-effectiveness, in accordance with legislative frameworks, including financial rules and regulations, while maintaining accountability to Member States;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the United Nations Development Group, as appropriate, to make efforts to enhance the coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations development system;

17. *Reaffirms* the need for continuously enhancing the transparency of the activities of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and of the United Nations Development Group, in particular to ensure their effective interaction with and improve their responsiveness to Member States, while respecting their working methods, and in this regard requests:

(*a*) The Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to further enhance the quality and quantity of information on the website of the Board and to publish and make available to Member States the inter-agency agreements and decisions of the Board;

(*b*) The Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure a transparent approach in priority-setting, and to include appropriate information on the work of the Board in its annual overview report to the Economic and Social Council, to be reviewed by the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

(*c*) The United Nations Development Group to consult the pertinent governing bodies of its constituent agencies on major resource and policy decisions;

(*d*) The President of the Economic and Social Council to continue to convene periodic briefings for Member States and the Secretariat following the biannual sessions of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, taking into account the need to schedule the briefings within a time frame that permits the full utilization of opportunities by Member States for an effective dialogue with the Board regarding its activities;

18. *Recognizes* that the individual United Nations funds, programmes and agencies have specific experience and expertise, derived from and in line with their mandates and strategic plans, and stresses in this regard that improvement of coordination and coherence at the country level should be undertaken in a manner that recognizes the respective mandates and roles and enhances the effective utilization of resources and the unique expertise of all United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

19. *Urges* all Member States to pursue full implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizes the positive contribution that these goals can make in providing direction to the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in accordance with national development efforts and priorities;

20. *Reaffirms* the central role of Governments in contributing to the work of the United Nations development system, while recognizing the importance of the United Nations development system increasing capacity to engage in results-oriented innovative national, regional and global partnerships with diverse stakeholders, including international financial institutions, civil society, the private sector and foundations, and encourages the United Nations development system to intensify its collaboration with these stakeholders;

21. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations system to work consistently across its entities, funds and programmes and specialized agencies by enhancing coordination within programme countries and by building strong linkages within programme countries and between national, regional and global levels;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of improving strategic planning at the United Nations agency and national levels, as well as of consistent, reliable and comprehensive statistical data and analysis about United Nations operational activities supporting national efforts in order to provide an understanding of evolution and trends contributing to sound policy decisions and to effectively implement the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the United Nations development system to take into account the needs of persons with disabilities in its operational activities for development, including in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and to address the continuing lack of adequate and reliable information on disability and to strengthen coherence and coordination across the United Nations system in this regard;

## II

## Funding of operational activities of the United Nations for development

### A. General principles

24. *Stresses* the need for adequate quantity and quality of funding for operational activities as well as the need to make funding more predictable, effective and efficient;

25. *Emphasizes* that increasing financial contributions to the United Nations development system, in particular core resources, is key to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard recognizes the mutually reinforcing links between increased effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the United Nations development system, achieving concrete results in assisting developing countries to eradicate poverty and achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development through its operational activities for development and the overall resourcing of the United Nations development system;

26. *Stresses* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in this regard notes with concern that the share of core contributions to United Nations funds and programmes has declined in recent years, and recognizes the need for organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources;

27. *Notes* that non-core resources represent an important contribution to the overall resource base of the United Nations development system and complement core resources to support operational activities for development, thus contributing to an increase in total resources, while noting the need to make non-core resources more flexible and aligned with strategic plans and national priorities and recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources;

28. *Recognizes* that non-core resources pose challenges, in particular restricted earmarked funding such as single-donor project-specific funding, through potentially increasing transaction costs, fragmentation, competition and overlap among entities and providing disincentives for pursuing a United Nations-wide focus, strategic positioning and coherence, and may also potentially distort programme priorities regulated by intergovernmental bodies and processes;

29. *Also recognizes* the overall positive trends of funding for United Nations operational activities in the period from 1995 to 2010, and notes with concern the decline in official development assistance in 2011 as well as the imbalance between core and non-core resources;

30. *Acknowledges* the efforts by developed countries to increase resources for development, including commitments by some developed countries to increase official development assistance, calls for the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance by 2015, as well as the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent for least developed countries, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

31. *Affirms* the importance of accountability, transparency and improved results-based management and further harmonized results-based reporting on the work of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and in nationally owned outcomes, for increased quantity and quality of funding for operational activities;

32. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system to intensify collaboration to achieve more effective use of development resources, as well as their expertise and actions towards strengthening national capacities in accordance with national priorities and development plans;

## B. Enhancing overall funding, in particular core resources

33. *Urges* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to maintain and substantially increase their voluntary contributions, in a manner consistent with their capacities, to the core/regular budgets of the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

34. *Stresses* that funding for operational activities should be aligned with the national priorities and plans of the programme countries as well as the strategic plans, mandates, resource frameworks and priorities of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and underscores in that regard the need to further strengthen the delivery of results and the results-based frameworks of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system and to improve their reporting on outputs and nationally owned outcomes;

35. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies, to report to their governing bodies at the first regular session of 2014 on concrete measures taken to emphasize the importance of broadening the donor base and increasing the number of countries and other partners making

financial contributions to the United Nations development system in order to reduce the reliance of the system on a limited number of donors, as well as on progress made in increasing the donor base;

36. *Encourages* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to further improve their communication to the general public on their mandates and development results, recognizing the important contribution made by those Governments in providing significant core contributions to regular resources of those organizations, and invites the United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies to provide information on efforts made in communicating to the general public in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council from 2013 onwards;

37. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to actively engage with the Bretton Woods institutions, the regional development banks, civil society, the private sector and foundations with a view to diversifying potential sources of funding, especially core funding, for their operational activities for development, in alignment with the core principles of the United Nations development system and with full respect for the national priorities of programme countries;

38. *Expresses concern* over the lack of progress by the governing bodies in the development and operationalization of the concept of the "critical mass" of core resources;

39. *Reiterates* the potential positive impact of determining the level of critical mass of core funding for United Nations development agencies, and requests the funds and programmes to define common principles for the concept of critical mass of core resources, which may include the level of resources adequate to respond to the needs of the programme countries and to produce the results expected in strategic plans, including administrative, management and programme costs, and to present specific proposals to their respective governing bodies by the end of 2013 with a view to a decision in 2014;

### C. Improving the predictability and quality of resources

40. *Recognizes* that Member States and the United Nations development system should prioritize the allocation of core/regular resources and non-core resources that are more predictable, flexible, less earmarked and better aligned with the priorities of programme countries, including those included in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and with the strategic plans and mandates of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

41. *Encourages* the governing bodies of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as appropriate, to ensure that all available and projected core and non-core resources are consolidated within an integrated budgetary framework, based on the priorities of their respective strategic plans;

42. *Requests* that, as a practice, all available and projected financial contributions for operational activities for development of the United Nations system at the country level be consolidated within a common budgetary framework, which would not constitute a legal constraint on the spending authority of resources, and that the framework be used to strengthen the quality of system-wide resource planning in support of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and also requests the funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies, to provide the necessary information on contributions to the resident coordinators upon agreement with programme countries;

43. *Stresses* the need to avoid the use of core/regular resources to subsidize non-core/extrabudgetary financed activities, including the use of core/regular resources to cover costs related to the management and support of non-core/extrabudgetary funds and their programme activities;

44. *Encourages* Member States making non-core contributions to reduce transaction costs, assign resources, as much as possible, at the beginning of the annual planning period, while encouraging multi-year duration of implementation of development-related activities, streamline and harmonize requirements related to reporting, monitoring and evaluation and give priority to pooled, thematic and joint funding mechanisms applied at the global, regional and country levels;

45. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) towards agency-specific integrated budgets, including harmonization of cost classification, and looks forward to the completion of this work to allow a better alignment of programming and resources in the next generation of strategic plans;

46. *Requests*, in this regard, the executive boards of the funds and programmes and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, as appropriate, to organize structured dialogues during 2014 on how to finance the development results agreed in the new strategic planning cycle of their respective entities, with a view to making non-core resources more predictable and less restricted/earmarked, broadening the donor base and improving the adequacy and predictability of resource flows;

### D. Ensuring full cost recovery

47. *Welcomes* the decisions of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and UN-Women on a harmonized cost classification methodology, in particular with regard to the classification of costs relating to programme activities and to non-programme activities, takes note of the current work being undertaken by the four organizations on a harmonized conceptual framework and calculation methodology for cost recovery rates, and in this regard looks forward to its completion by early 2013;

48. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, that the guiding principle governing the financing of all non-programme costs should be based on full cost recovery, proportionally, from core and non-core funding sources;

49. *Acknowledges* the principle of full cost recovery;

50. *Also acknowledges* that United Nations organizations have different business models and mandates and that this implies that their funding structures differ;

51. *Notes with concern* that the non-programme costs relating to non-core programme activities continue to draw resources from core resources for programme activities;

52. *Urges* Member States making non-core contributions to reduce transaction costs and to streamline reporting requirements, where possible;

53. *Requests* the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, and encourages the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, to adopt cost recovery frameworks by 2013, with a view to their full implementation in 2014, based on the guiding principle of full cost recovery, proportionally, from core and non-core resources, and a simple, transparent and harmonized methodology, providing incentives, including through differentiated cost recovery rates, and taking into account different volumes and nature of funds to increase core funding and more predictable, flexible and less earmarked non-core contributions that are aligned with the strategic plans adopted by the respective governing bodies;

54. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes, and urges the specialized agencies, to include estimated amounts to be recovered in their budgets and to report on actual cost recovery amounts as part of their regular financial reporting;

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in the context of his annual report on the funding of operational activities for development, including options for incentive mechanisms for increasing core resources, to be applied at a system-wide level;

56. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to further pursue reductions in management costs in the effort to minimize the necessary cost recovery rate within the existing budget framework;

## III

## Contribution of United Nations operational activities to national capacity development and development effectiveness

### A. Capacity-building and development

57. *Recognizes* that capacity development and ownership of national development strategies are essential for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and calls upon organizations of the United Nations development system to provide further support to the efforts of developing countries, in alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, to establish and/or maintain effective national institutions and to support the implementation and, as necessary, the devising of national strategies for capacity-building, including policy advisory support, to deal with national and global challenges;

58. *Encourages* the United Nations system to promote sustainable development outcomes through strengthening normative and operational linkages within the United Nations system and, in this regard, to direct particular efforts to supporting programme countries, at their request, in building national capacity for inclusive, equitable, participatory, transparent and accountable national development processes, in order to target and empower the poor and people in vulnerable situations;

59. *Emphasizes* the need for enhanced capacity-building for sustainable development, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and reiterates the importance of human resources development, including training, the exchange of experience and expertise, knowledge transfer and technical assistance for capacity-building, which involves strengthening institutional capacities, including planning, management, monitoring and evaluation capacities;

60. *Stresses* that capacity development is a core function of the United Nations development system and one of the key interrelated principles that must be applied at the country level, and in this regard notes the efforts undertaken by the United Nations development system to identify capacity gaps, in particular the 2010 common country assessment/United Nations Development Assistance Framework guidelines and the 2010 United Nations Development Assistance Framework guidance and support package;

61. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to strengthen its focus on developing national capacities for development planning, disaggregated data collection and analysis, implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation, with an emphasis on the effective integration of the economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard recognizes that the resources of the United Nations development system, including the knowledge base and expertise of all resident and non-resident agencies, should be available for access by developing countries;

62. *Also calls upon* the United Nations development system to further support the capacity-building and capacity development of developing countries, upon their request, and to effectively coordinate and evaluate the impact of external development assistance in line with national development plans and priorities;

63. *Requests* the United Nations development system to develop, for the consideration of Member States, a common approach for measuring progress in capacity development, as well as to develop specific frameworks aimed at enabling programme countries, upon their request, to design, monitor and evaluate results in the development of their capacities to achieve national development goals and strategies;

64. *Calls upon* United Nations organizations to adopt measures that ensure sustainability in capacity-building activities, and reiterates that the United Nations development system should use, to the fullest extent possible, and strengthen national execution/implementation and available national expertise and technologies as the norm in the implementation of operational activities by focusing on national structures and avoiding, wherever possible, the practice of establishing parallel implementation units outside of national and local institutions;

65. *Stresses* that programme countries, in order to meet the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[360] should have access to new and emerging technologies, which requires technology transfer, technical cooperation and the building and nurturing of scientific and technological capacity to participate in the development and adaptation of these technologies to local conditions, and in this regard urges Member States and the United Nations system to support the promotion and transfer of new and emerging technologies to programme countries;

66. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to make increased use of national public and private systems for support services, including for procurement, security, information technology, telecommunications, travel and banking, as well as, when appropriate, for planning, reporting and evaluation, and also encourages the United Nations development system to avoid and significantly reduce the number of its parallel project implementation units in programme countries as a means of strengthening national capacities and reducing transaction costs;

67. *Recalls* paragraph 127 of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the importance of the use of national professional staff and national consultants, wherever feasible and to the advantage of the programme countries;

68. *Urges* all organizations of the United Nations development system to intensify inter-agency sharing of information, at the system-wide level, on good practices and experiences gained, results achieved, benchmarks and indicators and monitoring and evaluation criteria concerning their capacity-building and capacity development activities;

## B. Poverty eradication

69. *Reaffirms* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development in developing countries, particularly in Africa, and underlines the importance of accelerating sustainable, broad-based, inclusive and equitable economic growth for the benefit of all people and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

70. *Acknowledges* that the eradication of poverty through the development of national capacities in developing countries should continue to be a core area of focus for the United Nations development system, and that its development programmes and projects should attempt to address this greatest global challenge as their underlying objective;

71. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, including the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in accordance with their mandates, to assign the highest priority to poverty eradication, and stresses that efforts in this area should be scaled up to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger;

72. *Acknowledges* the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, emphasizes that, in accelerating poverty eradication, the United Nations development system must be driven by national priorities and operate in an integrated, coordinated and coherent manner, making full use of the interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations development system, and encourages the use of diverse strategies;

73. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to share good practices, lessons learned, strategies, programmes and policies, such as capacity-building, employment generation, education, vocational training, rural development and the mobilization of all possible resources, among others, which aim at achieving poverty eradication and promoting the active participation of those living in poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies as mandated by the United Nations development system, with the aim of accelerating progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and informing the process leading to the post-2015 development agenda;

## C. South-South cooperation and development of national capacities

74. *Reaffirms* the increased importance of South-South cooperation, and in this regard calls upon the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system to mainstream support to South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation into the regular country-level programming of operational activities for development, to strengthen support mechanisms at the global and regional levels, including drawing upon the knowledge networks of global entities and the capacities of the regional commissions and the United Nations development system regional teams, and to help developing countries, at their request and with their ownership and leadership, to develop capacities to maximize the benefits and impact of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in order to achieve their national goals, with special emphasis on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

75. *Requests* the United Nations development system to intensify its information-sharing, reporting and evaluation on support to and results achieved through South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation;

76. *Welcomes* the fact that the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation continues to facilitate the wide diffusion of and access to information relating to experiences, best practices and potential partners in South-South cooperation on the Web of Information for Development, its electronic databank;

77. *Also welcomes* the increasing importance of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in international development efforts, while stressing the important development challenges that all developing countries continue to face, recognizes in this regard the increasing potential of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and calls upon all countries in a position to do so, as well as other stakeholders, to increase their support for South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, especially by providing technical assistance and mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis;

78. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, within the United Nations Development Programme, and calls upon the United Nations development system to provide the Office with further support to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

79. *Requests* the heads of the specialized agencies, the United Nations funds and programmes and the regional commissions to pay special attention to the implementation of South-South cooperation projects managed or supported by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;

### D. Gender equality and women's empowerment

80. *Welcomes* the establishment and operationalization of UN-Women, noting the importance of its work for more effective and coherent gender mainstreaming across the United Nations and its role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women, as established by General Assembly resolution 64/289, and recognizes its role in assisting Member States upon their request;

81. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations development system to substantially increase the investment in and focus on outcomes and outputs relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women in United Nations development framework programmes;

82. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to consider the role of men and boys in gender mainstreaming policies;

83. *Requests* the United Nations development system to expand and strengthen the use of the United Nations country team performance indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women (the "scorecard") as a planning and reporting tool for assessing the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming for use by the country teams in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

84. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to institute greater accountability for gender equality in evaluations conducted by country teams by including gender perspectives in such evaluations;

85. *Urges* all organizations of the United Nations development system, in particular UN-Women, within their respective mandates, to strengthen the coordination of gender-responsive operational activities through existing coordination mechanisms at the country level and in partnership, where appropriate, with other relevant entities and national stakeholders;

86. *Welcomes* the development of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, under the leadership of UN-Women, as an accountability framework to be fully implemented by the United Nations development system;

87. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit to undertake a system-wide evaluation of the effectiveness, value added and impact of the System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women as a tool for performance monitoring and accountability for submission to the General Assembly following its full implementation;

88. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to acquire sufficient technical expertise for gender mainstreaming in programme planning and implementation to ensure that gender dimensions are systematically addressed and, in this regard, to draw on the gender expertise available in the United Nations system, including at UN-Women, to assist in the preparation process of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other development programming frameworks;

89. *Requests* the United Nations development system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates and in line with existing rules and regulations, to continue working collaboratively to enhance gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by ensuring that the various existing accountability mechanisms of the United Nations system provide for more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting on gender equality results and on the tracking of gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use, where appropriate, of gender markers, and encouraging the use by United Nations country teams of gender accountability mechanisms to assist and improve their performance at the country level;

90. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations development system to collect, analyse and disseminate comparable data, disaggregated by sex and age, in a regular and systematic manner, in order to guide country programming, and to support the preparation of organization-wide and country-level documents, such as the strategic, programmatic and results-based frameworks, and to continue to refine their tools for measuring progress and impact;

91. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

92. *Also calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments within the United Nations system at the central, regional and country levels for positions that affect operational activities for development, including appointments of resident coordinators and other high-level posts, with due regard to the representation of women from programme countries, in particular developing countries, and keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographical representation;

### E. Transition from relief to development

93. *Stresses* that the impacts of natural disasters are severely hampering efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and emphasizes the importance of reducing vulnerabilities to natural disasters;

94. *Recognizes* that the United Nations development system has a vital role to play in countries affected by natural disasters or conflicts that are in transition from relief to development, while recognizing that this is a complex, non-linear process, and in this regard requests the United Nations development system to respond to requests from countries affected by disasters or conflicts that are in transition from relief to development to support their national priorities, while recognizing the differences in these situations;

95. *Stresses* the need for transitional activities to be undertaken under national ownership, and requests the United Nations development system to contribute in this regard to the development of national capacities at all levels to manage the transition process;

96. *Calls upon* donors and countries in a position to do so to provide timely, predictable, flexible and sustained financial contributions for the operational activities of the United Nations system for the early recovery and long-term development of countries in transition from relief to development, and invites Member States to examine their own humanitarian and development financing mechanisms, as appropriate, in order to improve fast and flexible financing for prevention, resilience, preparedness, response and the transition from relief to development;

97. *Recognizes* the important role that effective and responsive resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator systems can play in situations of transition from relief to development with a view to planning and delivering humanitarian assistance in ways that are supportive of early recovery, in accordance with their mandates and the priorities of national Governments and upon the request of affected national Governments;

98. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations, development partners, the private sector, donor countries and affected States to enhance cooperation and coordination and to continue to utilize and develop appropriate tools, with a view to planning and delivering humanitarian assistance in ways that are supportive of early recovery as well as of sustainable rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

99. *Calls for* further strengthening of the coordination role of the resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator, as appropriate, in countries in transition from relief to development, so as to enable the resident coordinator to effectively and efficiently coordinate operational activities for development of the United Nations system in countries in situations of transition from relief to development;

100. *Requests* the United Nations development system to assign priority to providing adequate and sustained financial and technical support to ensure effective strategic and operational planning and coordination capacity in the offices of resident coordinators in countries in situations of transition from relief to development;

101. *Invites* the United Nations development system to take into account, in its assistance to countries emerging from conflict that are on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission, the advisory role that the Commission can play in relation to peacebuilding and recovery strategies, with a view to helping countries to lay the foundation for their economic and social recovery and development and ensuring national ownership of the peacebuilding process;

102. *Recognizes* the need for the United Nations development system, as requested, to support inclusive country-level and country-owned transition from relief to development in countries affected by natural disasters or conflict, based on country-led assessments, and underlines the importance of building strong partnerships by providing aid and managing resources more effectively, and aligning these resources for results, in line with country priorities, and by enhancing transparency, risk management and the use of country systems, strengthening national capacities and timeliness of aid and improving the speed and predictability of funding to achieve better results, while underlining the importance of thorough planning and coordination between the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the Secretariat, within their respective mandates, to better respond to the needs and priorities of the affected States;

103. *Requests* the members of the United Nations development system, upon the request of affected countries, to further delegate authority in the areas of programming and allocation of resources, as appropriate, to field representatives of United Nations entities in order to enable the respective entities to respond effectively and efficiently to national needs and priorities in countries in situations of transition from relief to development;

104. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to strengthen operational partnerships with other multilateral organizations and other stakeholders working in countries in situations of transition from relief to development, in particular the World Bank, as appropriate;

105. *Encourages* the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions to continue strengthening their efforts to improve coordination with regard to the transition from relief to development, including, where relevant, the development of joint responses for post-disaster and post-conflict needs assessments, programme planning, implementation and monitoring, in full consultation with affected Member States, including funding mechanisms, in order to deliver more effective support and to lower transaction costs for countries in transition from relief to development;

106. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination among the operational activities for development, humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding efforts of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates and the national priorities of countries in transition from relief to development, in support of national efforts;

107. *Requests* the United Nations development system to accelerate progress in deepening coordination between Secretariat entities and members of the United Nations development system, inter alia, through the simplification and harmonization of programming instruments and processes and business practices, with a view to providing effective, efficient and responsive support to national efforts in countries in transition from relief to development;

108. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to integrate disaster risk reduction into their respective activities, including measures aimed at restoring and improving services and infrastructure as part of the early recovery and transition phase;

109. *Emphasizes* that building and strengthening resilience at the local, national and regional levels is critical to reducing the impact of disasters, including by saving lives, reducing suffering, mitigating damage to property and providing a more predictable and effective delivery of assistance and relief, and in this regard, while recognizing that building resilience is a long-term development process, stresses the need for continued investment in preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response capacity;

110. *Encourages* the international community and relevant United Nations entities, including the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the United Nations funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, to give due consideration to prevention, preparedness and disaster risk reduction activities, in particular by supporting national and local efforts in that regard;

111. *Emphasizes* that the United Nations development system should further leverage its capacities at the regional level to enhance support to countries in transition from relief to development, with a view to preventing the spillover and recurrence of the conflict in the region/subregion;

112. *Requests* the United Nations development system to ensure that the profiles of the resident coordinators in countries in transition from relief to development also include the qualifications of a humanitarian coordinator and that appropriate training on coordination and provision of humanitarian assistance is provided;

## IV

## Improved functioning of the United Nations development system

### A. United Nations Development Assistance Framework

113. *Reaffirms* the central role and the importance of the active and full participation of national Governments during the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, in order to enhance ownership and achieve full alignment of operational activities with national priorities, challenges, planning and programming;

114. *Requests* resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to strengthen consultation with national Governments and relevant stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organizations, in agreement with national Governments, with a view to ensuring that the development and implementation of all United Nations planning and programming documents are fully aligned with national development needs and priorities;

115. *Recognizes* that the country-level presence of the United Nations development system should be tailored to meet the specific development challenges and needs of programme countries, as required, to implement national plans, strategies and programmes to be supported by the system, in line with the mandates of different entities, and that the work of the United Nations development system at the country level should be fully in line with the priorities agreed with the national authorities;

116. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have access to and benefit from the full range of mandates and resources of the United Nations development system, whereby national Governments should determine which resident and non-resident United Nations organizations will best respond to specific needs and priorities of the individual country, including in the case of non-resident agencies through hosting arrangements with resident organizations, as appropriate;

117. *Requests* the United Nations development system to take measures in full consultation with Member States to further improve the United Nations Development Assistance Framework as a strategic framework and to simplify the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process in order to reduce the workload of national Governments and other stakeholders, decrease the time necessary for the preparation of relevant documents and ensure alignment with Government planning cycles, thus improving the focus on results and promoting better division of labour within the United Nations system at the country level;

118. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to further strengthen joint programming processes at the country level, where appropriate, as a useful way to promote greater coherence, taking into account the principles of national ownership, alignment with national priorities and the comparative advantage of individual entities of the United Nations system at the country level;

119. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further simplify and harmonize agency-specific programming instruments and processes in alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework in order to better respond to national priorities, challenges and needs and to reduce transaction costs for national Governments and other stakeholders, and further requests funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies, to consult, inform and discuss with their respective governing bodies progress achieved in this regard by the end of 2013;

120. *Encourages* the United Nations development system, in line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and under the leadership of the resident coordinators, to continue promoting better division of labour within the United Nations system at the country level;

121. *Calls upon* the funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies, to carry out any changes required to align their planning and budgeting cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including the implementation of midterm reviews, as necessary, and to report to the Economic and Social Council on adjustments made to fit the new comprehensive review cycle at the substantive session of the Council;

### B. Resident coordinator system

122. *Stresses* that the resident coordinator system, while managed by the United Nations Development Programme, is owned by the United Nations development system as a whole and that its functioning should be

participatory, collegial and mutually accountable within that system, reaffirms in this context the importance of the implementation of the previous resolutions of the General Assembly regarding the United Nations presence at the country level, and reiterates the central role of the resident coordinators, under the leadership of Governments, in ensuring the coordination of United Nations operational activities for development at the country level, including in the common country assessment and the formulation and implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, with a view to improving the effectiveness of the response of the United Nations development system to national development needs, priorities and challenges of programme countries, including through appropriate resources and accountability;

123. *Recognizes* that resident coordinators, especially in countries with large country teams, complex coordination situations or in situations of complex emergencies, lack the capacity to address equally well all the tasks inherent to their functions, and reiterates therefore the need for the resident coordinator function to be supported by training, preparation, support and the qualifications necessary for the resident coordinators to perform their functions effectively while also ensuring that the profiles of the resident coordinators are aligned with the needs, priorities and challenges of programme countries;

124. *Decides* to improve the effectiveness of the resident coordinator system, and in this regard requests the United Nations development system:

(*a*) To improve the way in which individuals are attracted, selected, trained, appraised and retained within the resident coordinator system, with a view to bringing in and developing high-calibre leaders, working on behalf of and reflecting the full spectrum of the United Nations development system, including non-resident agencies, and to ensure that their profiles enable them to effectively address all the tasks inherent to their functions and are aligned with the needs, priorities and challenges of programme countries;

(*b*) To achieve diversification in the composition of the resident coordinator system in terms of geographical distribution and gender;

(*c*) To develop an integrated strategy of training and support to resident coordinators to help them to better respond to the needs, priorities and challenges of programme countries and address the demands of the United Nations development system without competing demands;

(*d*) To ensure the participation of all United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on an equal footing in the process of nominating candidates for the position of resident coordinator;

(*e*) To strengthen the capacity of the offices of the resident coordinators with a view to enhancing the coherence and effectiveness at the country level through improved access of the resident coordinator offices to the expertise available within the United Nations development system in response to national needs, priorities and challenges;

(*f*) To ensure that country-level coordination is cost-effective and is based on an efficient resident coordinator office which is flexible and responsive to the development needs, priorities and challenges of programme country Governments;

(*g*) To find more effective ways of identifying, mobilizing and deploying the assistance necessary to achieve tangible results in programme countries, including through the pooling of the capacities of different entities in the same sectors and at global, regional and national levels, bearing in mind the differentiated needs of programme countries;

(*h*) To encourage the United Nations Development Programme to appoint country directors, where cost-effective, in agreement with national Governments, to run core United Nations Development Programme activities, including fundraising, so as to ensure that resident coordinators are fully available for their system-wide tasks;

(*i*) To strengthen coordination with all development stakeholders, including civil society, at the country level, in agreement with the national Governments, in support of national development plans and priorities;

(*j*) To ensure the appropriate decentralization of authority from headquarters to the country-level representatives of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, where relevant, for making decisions on programmatic and financial matters related to the programming activities, as agreed with national authorities;

125. *Requests* the United Nations development system to enhance investment in staff development, including through the provision of the appropriate level of resources, so that the United Nations development system has the

right mix of capacities and skills, including for high-quality policy and programme advice, and the highest standards of leadership skills, management training and continuous learning to provide effective capacity development and other support in response to national needs, priorities and challenges, including enhanced emphasis on joint training across agencies;

126. *Recognizes* that there is a need to enhance the planning and coordination function of the resident coordinators, including through the full exercise of the responsibility and authority of the resident coordinators already provided by the General Assembly under its relevant resolutions, by allowing the resident coordinators to propose to members of United Nations country teams and relevant non-resident agencies, as appropriate, and in full consultation with Governments and with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including within the established United Nations Development Assistance Framework development and mid-term review processes:

(*a*) The amendment of projects and programmes, where required, in order to bring them into line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, without prejudice to the approval process through the governing bodies;

(*b*) Amendments to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or its action plan, if it is determined that some activities are no longer aligned with the broader strategy of the United Nations development system in response to the national needs, priorities and challenges of the programme country concerned;

127. *Also recognizes* the benefits of ensuring:

(*a*) The effective response of the resident coordinator system to the needs, priorities and challenges of programme countries;

(*b*) The ownership of the resident coordinator system by all members of the United Nations development system;

(*c*) That resident coordinators are able to effectively address all the tasks inherent to their functions;

(*d*) That the resident coordinator system is effectively managed under the leadership of the Secretary-General on behalf of the entire United Nations development system, drawing on all the assets of the system in support of national needs, priorities and challenges;

128. *Urges* the United Nations development system to provide further financial, technical and organizational support for the resident coordinator system, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the members of the United Nations development system, and based on the recent review of existing funding modalities in support of the resident coordinator system called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/7, to submit, for the consideration of the Council and the General Assembly in 2013, concrete proposals on the modalities for the funding of the resident coordinator system in order to ensure that resident coordinators have the necessary stable and predictable resources to fulfil their mandate effectively, without compromising resources allocated to programmatic activities, with due regard for the principle of fairness, which should reflect the direct involvement of each agency, based on the proportion of services used;

129. *Requests* the United Nations development system, in this regard, to ensure that the funding for the resident coordinator system will not adversely impact the resources available for development programmes in programme countries, and in this regard requests the United Nations development system to ensure, where possible, that cost savings as a result of joint efforts and coordination between entities of the United Nations development system at the country level will accrue to development programmes;

130. *Notes* that, in response to the request by Member States contained in paragraph 58 of General Assembly resolution 59/250, the management and accountability system of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system, including the "functional firewall" for the resident coordinator system, has been developed within the United Nations development system in order to provide an accountability framework for resident coordinators to exercise oversight of the design and implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and in this regard calls upon:

(*a*) The United Nations development system to ensure the full implementation, including monitoring, of the management and accountability system of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system, including the functional firewall for the resident coordinator system, in areas that do not require intergovernmental approval;

(*b*) The United Nations development system to ensure that resident coordinators, supported by members of the United Nations country teams, are accountable to national authorities for the delivery of results agreed in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and report to them on the results of the country teams as a whole;

(*c*) The funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system, where appropriate, to implement the request of the General Assembly, contained in paragraph 37 (*c*) of its resolution 50/120, that the resident coordinators provide formal input to the regular performance appraisals of all entity representatives who are members of the country team on their contributions to its effective and efficient functioning, and in this regard reiterates the importance of the mutual appraisal between the resident coordinators and the members of the country teams in the performance assessment process;

131. *Requests* the Secretary-General to regularly assess and report, on a comprehensive and quantitative basis, on progress in furthering programme and operational coordination at the country level in order to inform annual reporting to the Economic and Social Council on the functioning of the resident coordinator system;

## C. "Delivering as one"

132. *Notes* the outcomes of the intergovernmental conferences on "Delivering as one" held in Maputo (2008), Kigali (2009), Hanoi (2010), Montevideo (2011) and Tirana (2012) as concrete recommendations to further the "Delivering as one" process, and emphasizes the importance of continuing the sharing of information regarding the implementation of "Delivering as one" by Member States and the United Nations system;

133. *Takes note* of the outcome of the independent evaluation of lessons learned from "Delivering as one", as presented in the note by the Secretary-General;[370]

134. *Recognizes* the achievements and experience in the implementation of "Delivering as one" by a number of pilot programme countries on a voluntary basis as an important contribution for enhancing the coherence, relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations development system in those countries, strengthening national ownership and leadership in the operational activities for development of the United Nations system and achieving strategic results, especially on cross-cutting issues, and notes, furthermore, that a number of programme countries have adopted the "Delivering as one" modality on a self-starter basis, and that their experience can positively contribute to enhancing United Nations operational activities at the country level;

135. *Also recognizes* that the pooled funding mechanisms are important tools in advancing "Delivering as one", and calls upon Member States and United Nations funds and programmes, as appropriate, to contribute financially to assure the extension of these mechanisms in "Delivering as one" countries;

136. *Reaffirms* that the "no one size fits all" approach and the principle of the voluntary adoption of "Delivering as one" should be maintained so that the United Nations system can tailor its approach to partnership with individual programme countries in a way that best suits their national needs, realities, priorities and planning modalities, as well as their achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, other internationally agreed development goals and the United Nations post-2015 development agenda;

137. *Requests* the United Nations development system to identify and address challenges and bottlenecks, in particular at the headquarters level, which have prevented United Nations country teams in "Delivering as one" countries from fully realizing the efficiency gains under the "Delivering as one" approach and to report thereon as part of the annual reporting on the implementation of the present resolution for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

138. *Also requests* the United Nations development system to provide programme countries that are considering adoption of the "Delivering as one" approach with information on issues such as "Delivering as one"-specific joint planning, programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, reporting and funding mechanisms, as well as on the support provided by the resident coordinator office and the United Nations country team, with a view to enabling them to take an informed decision on modalities for the delivery of assistance;

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[370] A/66/859.

139. *Recognizes* that in "Delivering as one" countries a well-supported resident coordinator office, and resident coordinator, that is managed on behalf of the entire United Nations development system, is necessary to ensure United Nations coherence, effectiveness and efficiency at the country level;

140. *Requests* the United Nations system to build on the best practices and lessons learned in implementing "Delivering as one" by a number of countries and to further consolidate the process by clearly outlining the core elements of each of the "ones", based on lessons learned, including by formulating standard operational procedures as guidelines for the successful work of the United Nations country teams in "Delivering as one" countries, as well as for other countries that consider joining "Delivering as one", and to report on this process and standard operating procedures to the Economic and Social Council during the operational activities segment of its substantive sessions;

141. *Also requests* the United Nations system, including the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, to support programme countries that have adopted the "Delivering as one" approach with an integrated package of support comprising standard operating procedures as well as guidance on "Delivering as one"-specific programming, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, pooled funding mechanisms and support to the resident coordinator system, in line with the management and accountability system of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system, including the functional firewall for the resident coordinator system, and the simplification and harmonization of business practices;

142. *Emphasizes* the need to establish common monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanisms on the implementation of "Delivering as one" towards greater accountability to Member States and a more results-based generation of "Delivering as one", and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to come up with proposals for the consideration of Member States;

143. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his annual report options for the review and approval of the common country programme documents of the "Delivering as one" countries and to make appropriate recommendations for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly by 2013;

## D. Regional dimensions

144. *Recognizes* the contribution of the regional commissions as well as interregional, regional and subregional cooperation to addressing development challenges related to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

145. *Encourages*, in this regard, the United Nations development system to strengthen collaboration with regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and regional banks, as appropriate and consistent with their respective mandates;

146. *Requests* the regional commissions as well as the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations development system at the regional level to further strengthen cooperation and coordination among themselves and with their respective headquarters, in close consultation with the Governments of the countries concerned and, where appropriate, to include the funds, programmes and specialized agencies that are not represented at the regional level;

147. *Recognizes*, in regard to the functioning of the United Nations development system, the importance of aligning regional technical support structures and the regional bureaux to provide support to the United Nations country teams, including enhanced technical, programme and administrative support, increasing their collaboration at the regional level, including through co-location, where appropriate and consistent with the needs of the programme countries of the regions concerned, and identifying appropriate mechanisms at the subregional level, where appropriate, bearing in mind the existing subregional offices of the regional commissions, in close consultation with the programme countries concerned, to respond to specific challenges that cannot be adequately responded to at the regional hubs;

148. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, its regional commissions and other regional and subregional entities, as appropriate and consistent with their mandates, to intensify their cooperation and to adopt more collaborative approaches to support country-level development initiatives, at the request of recipient countries, in alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and in close coordination with the resident coordinators and the representatives of the United Nations country teams, to establish and/or improve mechanisms to promote knowledge-sharing on and compile successful development

experiences and best practices through South-South cooperation or triangular schemes, when appropriate, by improving mechanisms for access to the technical capacities of the United Nations system at the regional and subregional levels;

149. *Notes* the assistance provided by the United Nations development system at the regional level across a range of areas, including demand-driven advisory services, and requests the United Nations development system at the regional level to substantially enhance support to United Nations country teams in pursuing national development agendas, in alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and in close coordination with the resident coordinators;

150. *Encourages* resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to draw more upon the normative support work and policy expertise that exists within the regional commissions, and requests the regional commissions to further develop their analytical capacities to support country-level development initiatives, at the request of the programme countries, and to support measures for more intensive inter-agency collaboration at the regional and subregional levels, and in this regard urges the regional commissions and their subregional offices to prioritize sustainable development initiatives at the country level through, inter alia, more efficient and effective capacity-building, development and implementation of regional agreements and arrangements addressing the regional and subregional dimensions of national development goals and the exchange of information, best practices and lessons learned;

151. *Notes* the technical support functions provided by the United Nations Development Group regional teams to the resident coordinators and the United Nations country teams, including quality assurance of United Nations development assistance frameworks, performance management, troubleshooting in country-specific contexts and other areas of operational support services, and encourages resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to draw more upon this type of support provided by the United Nations Development Group regional teams;

## E. Simplification and harmonization of business practices

152. *Requests* the United Nations development system funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations, to further pursue higher-quality, more effective and cost-efficient support services in all programme countries by reducing the duplication of functions, and administrative and transaction costs, through the consolidation of support services at the country level, either by delegating common functions to a lead agency, establishing a common United Nations service centre or, where feasible, outsourcing support services without compromising quality of services, and, within their mandates, ensuring that efficiency savings are used for programme activities with a view to building national capacities, and to report on concrete achievements in this regard to their respective governing bodies by the end of 2014 and annually thereafter, and requests the funds and programmes to submit a joint plan in this regard to their executive boards at their first regular sessions in 2014;

153. *Requests* the funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations, to further invest in intra-agency rationalization of business operations and to present plans in this regard to their governing bodies by the end of 2013;

154. *Also requests* the funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system, to develop and conclude inter-agency framework agreements regarding the provision of support services regulating the mutual validity of agreements between United Nations entities and third parties at the country level and to delegate the authority to country teams to establish and manage common services and long-term agreements with third parties through standardized inter-agency agreements without further approval requirements by the end of 2013;

155. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the High-level Committee on Management and the United Nations Development Group, to present plans for the establishment of common support services at the country, regional and headquarters levels, based on a unified set of regulations and rules, policies and procedures, at the country, regional and headquarters levels, in the functional areas of finance, human resources management, procurement, information technology management and other administrative services, for review by the Economic and Social Council and approval by the executive boards of the funds and programmes and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies by the end of 2014, with a view to implementation by 2016;

156. *Recognizes* that more cost-effective, efficient and harmonized procurement practices can help to achieve greater effectiveness and better results, and encourages the United Nations development system to consider options for greater collaboration in procurement at the country, regional and global levels, taking into account the United Nations procurement principles of, inter alia, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition, and in this regard requests the funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system, to address the barriers to greater procurement cooperation and to fully exploit the potential for improved efficiency and effectiveness through increased collaboration, and to redirect efficiency savings, including from economies of scale, into programmes, and to make full use of the existing long-term agreements, develop new ones and implement the guidelines on common procurement at the country level;

157. *Encourages* the United Nations development system, in compliance with existing relevant legislative frameworks, to make increased use of national public and private systems for support services, including for procurement, security, information technology, telecommunications, travel and banking, as well as, when appropriate, for planning, reporting and evaluation;

158. *Also encourages* the United Nations development system to avoid and significantly reduce the number of its parallel project implementation units in programme countries as a means of strengthening national capacities and reducing transaction costs;

159. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present to the executive boards of the funds and programmes, by the beginning of 2014, a proposal on the common definition of operating costs and a common and standardized system of cost control, paying due attention to their different business models, with a view to their taking a decision on this issue;

160. *Requests* the funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations development system, to consider system-wide interoperability of enterprise resources planning systems, with the objective of harmonizing the electronic processing of internal and external management information, supporting harmonized business processes and practices across the entire United Nations development system in all future investments related to existing or new enterprise resources planning systems, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to undertake a study to examine the feasibility of establishing interoperability among the existing enterprise resources planning systems of the funds and programmes and to report on progress in achieving full interoperability in 2016 in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

161. *Requests* the United Nations development system to develop a strategy, in consultation with Member States, by the end of 2013, with concrete goals and targets, to support the establishment of common premises in programme countries that wish to adopt them, with due consideration to security conditions as well as cost-effectiveness, and to report on progress in this regard to the Economic and Social Council on a biennial basis, and encourages United Nations country teams to explore all potential savings across the organizations, including the harmonization of business practices in all functional areas and the consolidation of support services;

162. *Also requests* the United Nations development system to prioritize the availability of financial and human resources, without compromising the allocation of resources to programmatic activities, to further support the effective harmonization and rationalization of business operations, including the option of developing funding mechanisms and other incentives in support of innovative and sustainable business solutions supporting the further development and implementation of high-quality, efficient and cost-effective common support services;

163. *Strongly encourages* the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations entities to review and discuss the provisions in the present subsection with a view to promoting their implementation by the respective entities and improving harmonization with funds and programmes;

### F. Results-based management

164. *Affirms* the importance of results-based management as an essential element of accountability that can contribute to improved development outcomes and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the internationally agreed development goals;

165. *Acknowledges* the work done by agencies and the United Nations development system to improve results tracking and reporting mechanisms, while stressing the need to identify, assess and mitigate risks and address the remaining gaps in planning, management and reporting;

166. *Requests* the United Nations development system to accelerate work to develop and sustain a results culture at all levels within the funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and other United Nations entities, including by identifying and implementing appropriate incentives for results-based management, removing disincentives for results-based management at all levels and periodically reviewing their results management systems, and to invest in developing capacities and competencies for results-based management;

167. *Recognizes* progress in improving transparency, and calls for further efforts to ensure coherence and complementarity in the oversight functions, audits and evaluations across the United Nations development system;

168. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to strengthen and institutionalize results-based management in the United Nations development system, with the objective of improving development results as well as organizational effectiveness, including simplifying, streamlining and harmonizing results-based management systems;

169. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to articulate and report to the Economic and Social Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session in 2013, with a view to implementation by 2014, a more robust, coherent and harmonized approach to operational activities for development, focused on results, which would streamline and improve the planning, monitoring, measurement and reporting on system-wide results, and in this regard invites the executive boards of the funds and programmes and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations entities to engage in a focused dialogue on how to balance most effectively the need for reporting on system-wide results at all levels with the current agency-specific reporting requirements, taking into account the challenges in developing results frameworks that demonstrate the United Nations contribution to national development results;

170. *Requests* the United Nations development system to promote the development of clear and robust results frameworks that demonstrate complete results chains that establish expected results at the output, outcome and impact levels and include measurable indicators with baselines, milestones and targets for monitoring, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies, to consult Member States during the production of results frameworks of their respective strategic plans, and to report annually on implementation from 2014;

171. *Also requests* the United Nations development system to achieve alignment between results-based management and accountability by the end of 2013, including finding ways to strengthen delivery and reporting on the United Nations system-wide contribution to national development results, and in this regard requests the United Nations development system to ensure increased mutual accountability for results-based management and reporting at the country level;

172. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Joint Inspection Unit and Member States, to review results-based management and system-wide results reporting across the United Nations system and to present the review for consideration by the General Assembly in the next quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

### G. Evaluation of operational activities for development

173. *Emphasizes* the importance for organizations of the United Nations development system of having independent, credible and useful evaluation functions, with sufficient resources, and promoting a culture of evaluation that ensures the active use of evaluation findings and recommendations in policy development and improving the functioning of the organizations;

174. *Calls upon* members of the United Nations development system to further increase institutional and organizational capacity for the evaluation of operational activities for development and to increase training and skills-upgrading in results-based management, monitoring and evaluation methods, as well as to ensure the effective utilization of findings, recommendations and lessons learned in programming and operational decision-making, and requests the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to develop evaluation plans that are aligned with new strategic plans and are an integrated part of monitoring systems;

175. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have greater ownership and leadership of the evaluation of the assistance provided by the United Nations development system, in this regard calls upon members of the United Nations development system to intensify efforts to assist programme countries to strengthen national evaluation capacity in programme countries for the monitoring and evaluation of operational activities for development, and

requests the United Nations development system to develop and implement guidelines for further strengthening of national evaluation capacities for operational activities for development, in consultation with programme countries, including defining the responsibilities of different entities;

176. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen independent and impartial system-wide evaluation of operational activities for development;

177. *Notes*, in this regard, the findings and recommendations of the independent review commissioned by the Secretary-General in response to General Assembly resolution 64/289 on a comprehensive review of the existing institutional framework for the system-wide evaluation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,[371] and in this regard reaffirms that further strengthening of system-wide evaluation within the United Nations development system should be based on utilizing and enhancing existing mechanisms;

178. *Encourages* the enhanced coordination and exchange of experience among the United Nations entities engaged in system-wide evaluation of operational activities for development, namely, the Joint Inspection Unit, the United Nations Evaluation Group, and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;

179. *Notes* that the Joint Inspection Unit is the only entity within the United Nations system with a specific mandate for independent system-wide evaluation, and acknowledges the reforms initiated by the Unit;

180. *Also notes* the development of the norms and standards for evaluation by the United Nations Evaluation Group as a professional network, and encourages the use of these norms and standards in the evaluation functions of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as in system-wide evaluations of operational activities for development;

181. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish an interim coordination mechanism for system-wide evaluation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system composed of the Joint Inspection Unit, the United Nations Evaluation Group, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and also requests the Secretary-General, through the interim coordination mechanism, to develop a policy for independent system-wide evaluation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including submitting a proposal for pilot system-wide evaluations, for discussion by the Economic and Social Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session in 2013;

182. *Requests* the funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations entities, to intensify the use and the evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the evaluations of the United Nations system-wide contribution to national development results;

## V

## Follow-up and monitoring

183. *Reaffirms* that the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system should take appropriate actions for the full implementation of the present resolution, in line with paragraphs 91 and 92 of resolution 56/201;

184. *Underscores* the importance of ensuring that the strategic plans of funds and programmes are consistent with and guided by the comprehensive policy review, which establishes the main intergovernmentally agreed parameters of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

185. *Recognizes* the major role of the Economic and Social Council, within its Charter mandate, in the overall coordination of funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and in this regard looks forward to its review and assessment of the progress in the implementation of the provisions contained in the present resolution, through the operational activities segment of its annual substantive sessions;

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[371] A/66/852.

186. *Requests* the Secretary-General, on the basis of information provided by the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system, to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive sessions of 2013, 2014 and 2015, analytical reports on results achieved and measures and processes implemented in follow-up to the present resolution on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, with a view to ensuring its full implementation;

187. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the analytical quality of system-wide reporting on funding and performance and programme results for United Nations operational activities for development, including the coverage, timeliness, reliability, quality and comparability of system-wide data, definitions and classifications;

188. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and in cooperation with United Nations resident coordinators, and in an appropriate and cost-effective manner, to conduct a biennial survey, directed to Governments, on the effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of the United Nations system in order to provide feedback on the strengths and main challenges encountered in their interaction with the United Nations development system, with a view to enabling intergovernmental bodies to address them, and also requests that the results of such surveys be published and made available to Member States;

189. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the present resolution in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, inter alia, by making use of relevant documentation, and to make appropriate recommendations.

## RESOLUTION 67/227

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/442/Add.2, para. 9)[372]

### 67/227. South-South cooperation

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

*Recalling* its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005, 62/209 of 19 December 2007, 63/233 of 19 December 2008, 64/1 of 6 October 2009, 64/221 of 21 December 2009, 66/219 of 22 December 2011 and other resolutions relating to South-South cooperation,

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[373]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[374]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation on its seventeenth session, held from 22 to 25 May and on 12 September 2012,[375] and welcomes the decisions adopted at that session;[376]

3. *Encourages* the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system to take concrete measures to effectively mainstream support to South-South and triangular cooperation in their policy and regular programming work, and in this context requests those organizations and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to leverage each other's institutional and technical capacities;

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[372] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[373] Resolution 60/1.

[374] A/67/208.

[375] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/67/39).

[376] Ibid., chap. I.

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations regional commissions to play a catalytic role in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation and in strengthening their technical, policy and research support for countries of their regions;

5. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize adequate resources for enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation, in this context invites all countries in a position to do so to contribute in support of such cooperation through, inter alia, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, and in this context encourages the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to undertake additional resource mobilization initiatives to attract more financial and in-kind resources, while avoiding the proliferation and fragmentation of financing arrangements;

6. *Decides* to hold the eighteenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation from 19 to 22 May 2014, to be preceded by an organizational meeting on 5 May 2014 to elect the President and the Bureau of the eighteenth session of the High-level Committee;

7. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "South-South cooperation", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, before the beginning of the session, a comprehensive report on the state of South-South cooperation.

## RESOLUTION 67/228

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/443, para. 13)[377]

### 67/228. Agriculture development and food security

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[378] particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security,

*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[379] Agenda 21,[380] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[381] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[382] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[383] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[384] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[385] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[386] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals[387] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[388] as well as its resolutions 65/178 of 20 December 2010 and 66/220 of 22 December 2011,

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[377] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[378] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[379] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[380] Ibid., annex II.

[381] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[382] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[383] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[384] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[385] Resolution 60/1.

[386] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[387] Resolution 65/1.

[388] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

*Recalling further* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[389]

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/221 of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Quinoa, 2013, and 66/222 of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Family Farming, 2014,

*Expressing concern* that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity are poverty and inequity, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and nutrition and to achieve the objective of reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recalling* the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[390] including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the goals set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[391]

*Noting with appreciation* the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and nutrition,

*Welcoming* national, regional and international initiatives and commitments aimed at improving food security and nutrition,

*Recalling* the commitments made to achieve global food security and to provide adequate and predictable resources through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the financial and policy commitments set out in the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative, and noting with appreciation the launch of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, which aims to accelerate the flow of private capital to African agriculture, take to scale new technologies and other innovations that can increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity and reduce the risk borne by vulnerable economies and communities in Africa,

*Recalling also* the adoption on 10 March 2010 of the Abuja Declaration on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa by the High-level Conference on the Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa, endorsed by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighteenth ordinary session, in which a call was made for, inter alia, renewed commitment to increasing allocations in national budgets to the agricultural sector and for the adoption of programmes to accelerate the development of value chains for strategic food commodities, build competitive food supply systems and reduce reliance on food imports,

*Stressing* the importance of an enabling international and national environment to increase and sustain investment in the agriculture sector of developing countries and to create a more level playing field in agricultural trade through substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organization,[392] the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration,

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[389] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[390] A/57/499, annex.

[391] Resolution 55/2.

[392] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

*Reaffirming* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet the nutritional needs, especially, of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as those living in vulnerable situations,

*Stressing* the importance of the preservation of the natural resource base for food security,

*Remaining deeply concerned* about the continuing large-scale humanitarian disaster being faced by millions of people in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel,

*Taking into account* the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, as well as the root causes of food insecurity, in a manner consistent with the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security,

*Acknowledging* that food losses and waste, estimated at 1.3 billion tons annually, occur in both low- and high-income countries at all stages of the food supply chain, as well as the consumption stage, and recognizing the need to take urgent measures to reduce pre- and post-harvest losses and waste of food,

*Reiterating* the importance of empowering rural women as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and nutrition,

*Recognizing* that farmers, including small-scale farmers and fisherfolk, pastoralists and foresters, can make important contributions to sustainable development through production activities that are environmentally sound, enhance food security and the livelihood of the poor and invigorate production and sustained economic growth,

*Recognizing also* the importance and the positive role of smallholder farmers, including women, cooperatives and indigenous and local communities in developing countries, and their knowledge and practices, in the conservation and sustainable use of traditional crops and biodiversity for present and future generations as an important contribution to the achievement of food security, as well as in the implementation of development goals in such fields as employment policy, social integration, regional and rural development, agriculture and environmental protection,

*Welcoming* the outcome of the thirty-eighth (special) session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome on 11 May 2012, at which the Committee endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[393] and the outcome of the thirty-ninth session of the Committee, held in Rome from 15 to 20 October 2012,

*Taking note* of the reports of the High-level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security on food security and climate change and on Social protection for food security and the approved terms of reference for an inclusive consultation process within the Committee to develop and ensure broad ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investment,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[394]

2. *Reiterates* the need to adequately and urgently address agriculture development and food security in the context of national, regional and international development policies, taking into account the importance of enhancing synergies between sustainable agriculture practices, biodiversity, food security, nutrition and development policies;

3. *Also reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing food security challenges and the eradication of poverty in relation to food security must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led and built in consultation with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those that suffer from food insecurity, to make food security and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

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[393] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

[394] A/67/294.

4. *Calls upon* the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[395] especially the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

5. *Welcomes* the Zero Hunger Challenge initiative launched by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development as a vision for a future free from hunger;

6. *Also welcomes* the proclamation by the General Assembly, in its resolution 66/221, of 2013 as the International Year of Quinoa and the global launch of the Year, to be held on 31 January 2013, and encourages all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders to take advantage of the Year as a way of promoting the traditional knowledge of the Andean and other indigenous peoples, contributing to the achievement of food security, nutrition and poverty eradication and raising awareness of their contribution to social, economic and environmental development, and to share good practices on the implementation of activities during the Year, as indicated in the master plan of activities for the Year, entitled "A future sown thousands of years ago",[396] and recalls paragraph 3 of the report of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on its 144th session;[397]

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on its 144th session, which stresses the importance of the Organization's support to globally important agriculture heritage systems;

8. *Welcomes* the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, which encourages increased political commitment and programmatic alignment to reduce global hunger and undernutrition, with emphasis on tackling undernutrition in women, especially pregnant and lactating women, and children under 2 years of age;

9. *Stresses* the need to address the root causes of excessive food price volatility, including its structural causes, at all levels, and the need to manage the risks linked to excessively volatile prices in agriculture commodities and their consequences for global food security and nutrition, as well as for smallholder farmers and poor urban-dwellers;

10. *Also stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including through improving the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development;

11. *Encourages* all stakeholders to take part in the inclusive consultation and negotiation processes within the Committee on World Food Security for the development and broader ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investment that enhances food security and nutrition, taking into account existing frameworks, such as the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Bank;

12. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience of food and agricultural production to climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, including the resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation and mitigation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition security that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition; and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food;

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[395] A/57/304, annex.

[396] A/67/553, appendix.

[397] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/REP.

14. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and their funding, from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector to promote development and to build up resilience to ensure better recovery from crisis and shock, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions, and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to and mitigate climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

16. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists for many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women, including needs relating to their food and nutritional security and that of their families, and to promote adequate standards of living for them as well as decent conditions for work and access to local, regional and global markets;

17. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in collaboration with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to promote, as appropriate, the growth of agricultural cooperatives through easy access to affordable finance, the adoption of sustainable production techniques, investment in rural infrastructure and irrigation, strengthened marketing mechanisms and support for the participation of women in economic activities;

18. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity in different regions of the world and its ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

19. *Welcomes* the Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative – Sahel, which aims to promote greater resilience among vulnerable populations in the Sahel by creating greater synergy between emergency actions and long-term strategies aimed at addressing the root causes of food crises, in partnership with the Economic Community of West African States, the West African Economic and Monetary Union and the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel;

20. *Notes* the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

21. *Recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of systems should be strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

22. *Also recognizes* the importance of timely, accurate and transparent information in helping to address excessive food price volatility, notes global and regional initiatives, including the Agricultural Market Information System and its Rapid Response Forum, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Food Security Information System of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Asia-Pacific Information Platform on Food Security, and urges international organizations, private sector actors and Governments to participate and ensure the public dissemination of timely and quality food market information products;

23. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture and rural development sectors, notably in developing countries, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities through, inter alia, enhancing access by agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, indigenous peoples and people living in vulnerable situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

24. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of national, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all to those markets, especially smallholder and women farmers in developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing countries to enable them to increase their productivity and to compete on a more equal footing in world food markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

25. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholder farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets, and emphasizes that the successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round, in accordance with its mandate, would constitute a key action towards the achievement of food security;

26. *Also stresses* the need to remove food export restrictions or extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme, and not to impose them in the future;

27. *Further stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, the international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards agriculture development and food security and nutrition;

28. *Stresses* the need to significantly reduce post-harvest and other food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain through, inter alia, increased promotion of appropriate harvesting practices, agro-food processing and appropriate facilities for the storage and packaging of food;

29. *Recognizes* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a key organ in addressing the issue of global food security, including in the context of the global partnership for food security;

30. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, in order to enhance the production, productivity and nutritional quality of food crops and to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities;

31. *Encourages* countries to give due consideration to implementing the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[393] as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security on 11 May 2012;

32. *Requests* the relevant entities of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates and in the most cost-effective manner, to ensure the speedy dissemination and promotion of the Guidelines;

33. *Reaffirms* the commitments to making every effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 in support of developing countries, in particular those countries that are lagging most behind and those Goals that are most off track, thus improving the lives of the poorest people;

34. *Invites* Member States and other stakeholders to give appropriate consideration to the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution;

36. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session an item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition".

## RESOLUTION 67/229

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/444, para. 12),[398] by a recorded vote of 170 to 7, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Australia, Cameroon, El Salvador, Honduras, Malawi, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Vanuatu

### 67/229. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/225 of 22 December 2011, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/23 of 26 July 2012,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

*Guided* by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

*Recalling* its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

*Reaffirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[399] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Recalling*, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[400] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[400] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

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[398] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and State of Palestine.

[399] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[400] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

*Recalling also* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory[401] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

*Expressing its concern* about the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Expressing its grave concern* about the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses, and the grave environmental and economic impact in this regard,

*Expressing its concern* about the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip in the recent period, which, inter alia, pollutes the environment and negatively affects the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people,

*Taking note*, in this regard, of the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip, and stressing the need for follow-up to the recommendations contained therein,

*Aware* of the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, including the destruction of orchards and crops and the seizure of water wells by Israeli settlers, and of the dire socioeconomic consequences in this regard,

*Aware also* of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

*Reaffirming* the need for the resumption and accelerated advancement of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[402] and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[403] as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008, for the achievement of a final peace settlement on all tracks,

*Stressing* in this regard the need for respect for the obligation upon Israel under the road map to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

*Stressing also* the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

*Recalling* the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

*Taking note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,[404]

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[401] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[402] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[403] S/2003/529, annex.

[404] A/67/91-E/2012/13.

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion, and endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion, or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with within the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall and settlements being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, are contrary to international law and are seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations affirmed in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice[401] and in relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease all actions harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, which, inter alia, has a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion by Israel of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

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## RESOLUTION 67/138

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/449 and Corr.1, para. 32)[1]

### 67/138. Integrating volunteering in the next decade

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 66/67 of 5 December 2011 on the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers,

*Recognizing* that volunteerism is an important component of any strategy aimed at such areas as poverty reduction, sustainable development, health, education, youth empowerment, climate change, disaster risk reduction, social integration, social welfare, humanitarian action, peacebuilding and, in particular, overcoming social exclusion and discrimination,

*Acknowledging* the existing contribution of the organizations of the United Nations system in support of volunteering, especially the work of the United Nations Volunteers programme around the world, and acknowledging also the efforts of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to promote volunteerism throughout its global network, and the work of other volunteer-involving organizations at the national, regional and global levels,

*Welcoming* the publication by the United Nations Volunteers of the first *State of the World's Volunteerism Report*, which highlights the global recognition of volunteerism, with its core values of solidarity, reciprocity, mutual trust, social inclusion and empowerment, as well as its positive effects on individual, community and societal well-being, and commending the United Nations Volunteers programme for taking the lead in producing the report,

*Welcoming also* the creation of momentum in developing common platforms to increase support for volunteerism through the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers in 2011, and urging all stakeholders to accelerate the momentum in the recognition, promotion, facilitation and networking of volunteerism and, in this regard, to renew their efforts for the integration of volunteering,

*Commending* the increasing link between volunteerism and sports, which, through the invaluable contributions of national and international volunteers to the preparation and the organization of major sporting events, contributes to the promotion of the ideal of peace,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Commends* the contributions of national and international volunteers for their fundamental role in the promotion of peace and development;

3. *Congratulates* the 70,000 national and international volunteers whose contributions were fundamental to the success of the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games, as well as the thousands of others who gave their time to support the Games, and looks forward to the contributions of national and international volunteers at the 2014 World Soccer Cup and the 2016 Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games;

4. *Calls upon* stakeholders to do their utmost to strengthen the policy relating to volunteering, including youth volunteering, at the local, national and international levels, as well as integrating volunteering in all relevant issues of the United Nations as main objectives for the next decade;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[2] A/67/153.

5. *Emphasizes* the role of the community as volunteer-accepting stakeholder in efforts to overcome challenges and to retain ownership of the community, and calls for a people-centred, holistic approach in order to build an inclusive and resilient society, supported by a social bond among the people through community-based approaches that facilitate the integration of volunteers;

6. *Recognizes* that an approach to volunteering may consider drawing on the notion of human security in accordance with all the provisions of General Assembly resolution 66/290 of 10 September 2012;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the growth and the development of volunteerism since the International Year of Volunteers, and encourages Member States to consider peace and development programmes and initiatives that offer opportunities to build strong and cohesive volunteer coalitions around shared goals at the local, national, regional and international levels;

8. *Invites* Member States to mobilize and support the research community globally to carry out more studies on the subject of volunteerism, including collecting data disaggregated by gender, age and disability, in partnership with civil society, in order to provide sound knowledge as a foundation for policies and programmes;

9. *Calls upon* Member States and other stakeholders to favour the integrating of volunteering in all relevant issues of the United Nations, in particular to contribute to accelerated achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as giving appropriate consideration to the issue in the discussions on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda;

10. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to create favourable and safe environments to enable a diversity of volunteers to participate in volunteer activities;

11. *Requests* Member States and the United Nations system to work together with other volunteer-involving organizations to support efforts to enhance the security and protection of volunteers;

12. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with the international community and civil society, to promote volunteerism in all segments of society, recognizing the benefits of diverse life experiences to volunteerism, and to incorporate volunteerism into education curricula for all ages and into school-community engagements;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Volunteers to continue their efforts to promote volunteerism, including through the integration of volunteerism in peace and development as well as the development of innovative recruitment modalities, such as online volunteering;

14. *Calls upon* organizations in the United Nations system to continue to assist in the promotion of the United Nations Volunteers and upon development partners and all Member States in a position to do so to increase funding to the Special Voluntary Fund to conduct research and training, to undertake pilot innovations and to explore other funding modalities;

15. *Emphasizes* that volunteerism offers valuable opportunities for youth engagement and leadership to contribute to the development of peaceful and inclusive societies, while also allowing young people to acquire skills, build their capacities and increase their employability;

16. *Urges* the United Nations Volunteers and other relevant United Nations organizations to promote a youth volunteer programme, called for in the five-year action agenda of the Secretary-General, also urges all stakeholders to promote youth volunteering, including through the programme, in cooperation with the United Nations system, and invites Member States to consider voluntary contributions to the youth volunteering trust fund for the purpose of the programme;

17. *Recognizes* the important role played by women volunteers, inter alia, in meeting women's needs, and encourages women's leadership and participation in all forms of volunteering;

18. *Reaffirms* the need to encourage volunteerism in all its forms, which contributes significantly to the cohesiveness and the well-being of communities and of societies as a whole and which involves and benefits all segments of society, especially women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, minorities, migrants and those who remain excluded for social or economic reasons;

19. *Encourages* Member States to support intergenerational solidarity and knowledge transmission through volunteering programmes;

20. *Also encourages* Member States to promote, where appropriate, further engagement of the private sector, through the expansion of corporate volunteering and employee volunteer activities, as well as increased coordination between the private and public sectors;

21. *Encourages* all stakeholders to recognize the importance of coordinating between the skills and the experience of the volunteers and the actual needs in the community, and emphasizes the need to bridge volunteering gaps;

22. *Emphasizes* that people-to-people relations are the core value of volunteerism, and encourages further efforts to build and strengthen networks among volunteers and all relevant partners at the national, regional and international levels, including World Volunteer Web as a global networking hub, as well as new technologies and social media;

23. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to integrate volunteering in disaster risk reduction, thereby reflecting the issues discussed in the thematic debate on disaster risk reduction, held in New York on 12 April 2012 during the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, and in the World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku, held in Japan on 3 and 4 July 2012, which include the involvement of volunteers in planning, and the importance of education, training and volunteer-based disaster response, including voluntary evacuation;

24. *Also encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to integrate volunteering in peacebuilding activities, thereby, inter alia, making more effective use of volunteers, including international United Nations Volunteers, and reflecting the importance of mobilizing and building the capacity of young people;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, under the item entitled "Social development", on the implementation of the present resolution, including a plan of action to be developed by the United Nations Volunteers programme to integrate volunteering in peace and development in the next decade and beyond, to be submitted to the Assembly and to be considered by Member States.

## RESOLUTION 67/139

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/449 and Corr.1, para. 32),[3] by a recorded vote of 54 to 5, with 118 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Seychelles, South Sudan, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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[3] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mali, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

## 67/139. Towards a comprehensive and integral international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the obligations contained in the relevant human rights instruments,

*Reaffirming also* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[4] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as age, race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

*Recalling* all General Assembly resolutions on matters relating to older persons, including older women, beginning with resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, and recalling also all relevant resolutions on the promotion and protection of the rights and dignity of older persons of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission for Social Development, as well as of the Commission on the Status of Women, as appropriate,

*Reaffirming* the outcomes of the World Assembly on Ageing,[5] the United Nations Principles for Older Persons of 1991,[6] the global targets on ageing for the year 2001, as agreed in 1992,[7] and the Proclamation on Ageing of 1992,[8] as well as the outcomes of the Second World Assembly on Ageing[9] and the respective follow-up reviews, in particular as they pertain to the promotion of the rights and well-being of older persons on an equal and participatory basis,

*Recognizing* that different efforts made to increase cooperation and integration and increasing awareness of and sensitivity to ageing issues since the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[10] by Governments, relevant bodies of the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, have not been sufficient to promote full and effective participation by and opportunities for older persons in economic, social, cultural and political life,

*Recalling* its resolution 65/182 of 21 December 2010, in which it decided to establish an open-ended working group, open to all States Members of the United Nations, for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures,

*Recognizing* that, by 2050, more than 20 per cent of the world's population will be 60 years of age or older, and recognizing also that the increase in the number of older persons will be greatest and most rapid in the developing world,

*Recognizing also* the essential contribution that the majority of older men and women can continue to make to the functioning of society if adequate guarantees, means and resources, as well as the highest possible level of health care, are in place, and that older persons must be full participants in the development process and also share its benefits,

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[4] Resolution 217 A (III).

[5] See *Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July–6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16).

[6] Resolution 46/91, annex.

[7] A/47/339, sect. III.

[8] Resolution 47/5, annex.

[9] See *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4).

[10] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

*Reaffirming* the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their respective follow-up reviews, in particular as they pertain to the promotion of the human rights and the well-being of older persons on an equal and participatory basis,

*Encouraged* by the increasing interest of the international community in the promotion and protection of the rights and dignity of older persons in the world under a comprehensive and integral approach,

*Acknowledging* that there are numerous obligations vis-à-vis older persons implicit in most core human rights treaties but that explicit references to age in core international human rights treaties are scarce, that there is no such instrument for older persons and that only a few instruments contain explicit references to age,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, and welcoming the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation of older persons,[11] in which it is stated that dedicated measures to strengthen the international protection regime for older persons are called for without further delay, including a new dedicated international instrument,

1. *Decides* that the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, which shall be open to all Member States and observers of the United Nations shall, as part of its mandate and starting from its upcoming fourth session, to be held in 2013, consider proposals for an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons, based on the holistic approach in the work carried out in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination, as well as gender equality and the empowerment of women, and taking into account the inputs of the Human Rights Council, the reports of the Working Group and the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as the contributions from the second global review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[10] to be held during the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development;

2. *Requests* the Working Group to present to the General Assembly, at the earliest possible date, a proposal containing, inter alia, the main elements that should be included in an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons, which are not currently addressed sufficiently by existing mechanisms and therefore require further international protection;

3. *Invites* States and relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental organizations with an interest in the matter, to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Working Group, as set out in paragraph 1 above, and invites relevant non-governmental organizations to contribute, as appropriate, on the basis of the modalities for participation agreed by the Working Group;[12]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to submit to the Working Group by its fourth session and from within existing resources a compilation of existing international legal instruments, documents and programmes that directly or indirectly address the situation of older persons, including those of conferences, summits, meetings or international or regional seminars convened by the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Working Group with the facilities necessary for the performance of the work entrusted to it in the present resolution;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in the report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing" of the item entitled "Social development" comprehensive information on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[11] E/2012/51 and Corr.1.

[12] A/AC.278/2011/2, sect. F.

## RESOLUTION 67/140

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/449 and Corr.1, para. 32)[13]

### 67/140. Realizing the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* earlier operational frameworks, such as the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[14] which it adopted on 3 December 1982, and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,[15] which it adopted on 20 December 1993, in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

*Reaffirming* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[16] which it adopted on 13 December 2006, a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and recognizing that it is both a human rights treaty and a development tool,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in which it recognized the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level, and stressing the duty of Member States to achieve greater justice and equality for all, in particular persons with disabilities,

*Recalling also* all of its previous resolutions on realizing the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions,

*Recalling further* the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[17] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[18] and the outcome document of the 2011 high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly on HIV and AIDS, entitled "Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS",[19] which contain references to the rights, participation, well-being and perspectives of persons with disabilities in development efforts,

*Gravely concerned* that persons with disabilities continue to be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination and are still largely invisible in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals, and noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming disability as an integral part of the development agenda, major challenges do remain,

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[13] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[14] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

[15] Resolution 48/96, annex.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[17] Resolution 65/1.

[18] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[19] Resolution 65/277, annex.

*Concerned* that the continuing lack of reliable data and information on disability and the situation of persons with disabilities at the national, regional and global levels contributes to the invisibility of persons with disabilities in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving disability-inclusive development planning and implementation,

*Stressing* the importance of collecting and analysing reliable data on persons with disabilities following existing guidelines on disability statistics,[20] encouraging ongoing efforts to improve data collection in order to disaggregate data with regard to persons with disabilities, and underlining the need to have internationally comparable data to assess progress on disability-inclusive development policies,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, at the level of Heads of State and Government, on 23 September 2013, with the overarching theme "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond", in order to strengthen efforts to ensure accessibility for and inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of development, and looks forward to the contribution its outcome document could make in mainstreaming the rights of persons with disabilities in the development agenda beyond 2015;

2. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Realization of the Millennium Development Goals and internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond",[21] and the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Urges* Member States, international and regional organizations, regional integration organizations and financial institutions to make a concerted effort to include persons with disabilities and integrate the principles of accessibility and inclusion in the monitoring and evaluation of the development goals;

4. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability in development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and strengthen international cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities trust fund, and encourages Member States and other stakeholders to support its objectives, including by providing voluntary contributions;

6. *Requests* the United Nations system to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building and for the collection and compilation of national and regional data and statistics on disability, in particular to developing countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with existing guidelines on disability statistics to analyse, publish and disseminate disability data and statistics in future periodic reports, as appropriate, on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities;

7. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations and the regional commissions to make all efforts to engage with and ensure the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities and, as appropriate, organizations of persons with disabilities and national human rights institutions, in development processes and decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system, within existing resources, to update existing methodologies of disability data collection and analysis for persons with disabilities, to obtain internationally comparable data on the situation of persons with disabilities and to regularly include relevant disability data or relevant qualitative facts, as appropriate, in relevant United Nations publications in the field of economic and social development;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To submit information on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

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[20] Such as the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15) and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XVII.8) and their updates.

[21] A/67/211.

(*b*) To submit the outcome of the sixth review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[14] to the General Assembly no later than June 2013, in advance of and as a contribution to the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities, and in this regard requests all relevant United Nations organizations, through the Secretary-General, to provide an analysis of the overall situation of persons with disabilities within the context of development and in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[16] based on available data and in accordance with their individual competencies and informed by regional consultations with persons with disabilities and organizations of persons with disabilities, as appropriate within existing resources.

## RESOLUTION 67/141

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/449 and Corr.1, para. 32)[22]

### 67/141. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

*Reaffirming* that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[23] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[24] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[25] and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit[26] and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[27]

*Recalling also* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

*Recalling further* its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

*Welcoming* the decision that the Commission for Social Development should consider "Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all" as the priority theme for the 2013–2014 review and policy cycle,[28]

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[22] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Belarus, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Serbia, South Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[23] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[24] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[25] Resolution 55/2.

[26] See resolution 60/1.

[27] See resolution 65/1.

[28] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/7.

*Recalling* the ministerial declaration of the substantive session of 2012 of the Economic and Social Council, entitled "Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals",[29]

*Noting* that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play in achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including its objective of social protection, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,[30] in which the particular role of the Organization in promoting fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts were acknowledged, as well as in the Global Jobs Pact,

*Emphasizing* the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

*Recognizing* that the three core themes of social development, namely, poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously,

*Recognizing also* that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

*Expressing deep concern* that attainment of the social development objectives is being hindered by the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and the challenges posed by climate change,

*Recognizing* the complex character of the ongoing food insecurity situation, including food price volatility, as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of the necessary technology, and recognizing also that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity,

*Acknowledging* the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

*Reaffirming* the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources,

*Deeply concerned* that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that its extent and its manifestations, such as hunger, trafficking in human beings, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are particularly severe in developing countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

*Recognizing* the importance of the international community in supporting national capacity-building efforts in the area of social development, while recognizing the primary responsibility of national Governments in this regard,

*Affirming* its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work for all should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

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[29] E/HLS/2012/1.

[30] A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

*Recognizing* the need to enhance access to the benefits of trade, including agricultural trade, for developing countries in order to foster social development,

*Recognizing also* that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[31]

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[23] in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all and to foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are mutually reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

5. *Expresses deep concern* that the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and food insecurity and the challenges posed by climate change, as well as the lack of results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations, have negative implications for social development;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space of national Governments, in particular in the areas of social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies by, among other things, providing debt relief;

7. *Recognizes* that the broad concept of social development affirmed by the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly has not been fully implemented in national and international policymaking and that, although poverty eradication is a central part of development policy and discourse, further attention should be given to the other commitments agreed to at the Summit, in particular those concerning employment and decent work for all and social integration, which have also suffered from a general disconnect between economic and social policymaking;

8. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, has provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty;

9. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first Decade has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

10. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit, the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development

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[31] A/67/179.

Goals, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,[32] and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

11. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should tackle poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity, the reduction of inequalities and the empowerment of the poor need to be incorporated into those policies;

12. *Reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

13. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

14. *Also stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

15. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

16. *Reaffirms* the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that they are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

17. *Encourages* Governments to promote effective participation of people in civic, social, economic and political activities, as well as in the planning and implementation of social integration policies and strategies, in order to better achieve the goals of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all and social integration;

18. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, including respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, also reaffirms that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development, that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and that human resources development strategies should be premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, health, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy, and further reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

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[32] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

19. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

20. *Reaffirms* the need to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and discrimination, including xenophobia, recognizes that violence increases challenges to States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, and also recognizes that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide present fundamental threats to societies and pose increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, and that they also present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

21. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies to mainstream the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all into their policies, programmes and activities, as well as to support efforts of Member States aimed at achieving this objective, and invites financial institutions to support efforts in this regard;

22. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards, and urges States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as civil society, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media and other relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining and long-distance education, inter alia, in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of women in the different stages of their lives;

23. *Also recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore an important objective of international cooperation, and supports the promotion of innovative approaches in the design and implementation of employment policies and programmes for all, including the long-term unemployed;

24. *Encourages* States to design and implement policies and strategies for poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all, including the creation of full and productive employment that is appropriately and adequately remunerated, as well as policies and strategies for social integration that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and address the specific needs of social groups such as young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, migrants and indigenous peoples, taking into account the concerns of those groups in the planning, implementation and evaluation of development programmes and policies;

25. *Stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour-market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

26. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of enforcing labour law effectively with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

27. *Recognizes* that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[33] the World Programme of Action for Youth,[34]

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[33] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[34] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[35] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[36] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;[37]

28. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

29. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments for achieving equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

30. *Stresses* that poverty eradication policies should, inter alia, ensure that people living in poverty have access to education, health, water and sanitation and other public and social services, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology, knowledge and information, and ensure that citizens and local communities participate in decision-making on social development policies and programmes in this regard;

31. *Recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

32. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

33. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection that support labour-market participation and address and reduce inequality and social exclusion and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage, urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in or vulnerable to poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors, which can provide a systemic base upon which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization on 14 June 2012;

34. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner;

35. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

36. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

37. *Acknowledges* the role that the public sector can play as an employer and its importance in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

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[35] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[36] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[37] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

38. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work for all, and encourages the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives, to contribute to decent work for all and job creation for both women and men, and particularly for young people, including through partnerships with Governments, the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

39. *Recognizes* that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization, giving priority to agricultural and non-farm sectors, and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas, while paying special attention to the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, as well as subsistence economies, to secure their safe interaction with larger economies;

40. *Also recognizes* the need to pay necessary attention to the social development of people in urban areas, especially the urban poor;

41. *Further recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable development, including sustainable agricultural development, and a financial infrastructure that provides access to a variety of sustainable products and services for microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises, and the participation and entrepreneurship of women as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all;

42. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[38] underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[39]

43. *Also reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

44. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

45. *Also stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools for creating favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries;

46. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

47. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

48. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

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[38] Resolution 60/1, para. 68.

[39] A/57/304, annex.

49. *Urges* Member States and the international community to fulfil all their commitments to meet the demands for social development, including social services and assistance, that have arisen from the global financial and economic crisis, which particularly affects the poorest and most vulnerable;

50. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitments for Vaccines, and notes the New York Declaration of 20 September 2004, which launched the Action against Hunger and Poverty initiative and called for further attention to raising funds urgently needed to help to meet the Millennium Development Goals and to complement and ensure the long-term stability and predictability of foreign aid;

51. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to promote the exchange of information and knowledge on decent work for all and job creation, including green jobs initiatives and related skills, and to facilitate the integration of relevant data into national economic and employment policies;

52. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, and emphasizes the need to take concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption;

53. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[40] invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

54. *Calls upon* Member States to give appropriate consideration to poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda;

55. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,[41] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

56. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

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[40] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[41] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6* (E/2005/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

57. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

## RESOLUTION 67/142

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/449 and Corr.1, para. 32)[42]

### 67/142. Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009 and 66/126 of 19 December 2011 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

*Recognizing* that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provide a useful opportunity to draw further attention to the objectives of the International Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

*Noting* that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

*Noting also* the importance of designing, implementing and monitoring family-oriented policies, especially in the areas of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work, work-family balance, social integration and intergenerational solidarity,

*Recognizing* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*Cognizant* of the need for continued inter-agency and regional cooperation on family issues in order to generate greater awareness of this subject among the governing bodies of the United Nations system,

*Convinced* that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[43]

1. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

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[42] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

[43] A/67/61-E/2012/3.

2. *Invites* Governments and regional intergovernmental entities to provide for more systematic national and regional data on family well-being and to identify and ensure support for constructive family policy developments, including the exchange of information on good policies and practices;

3. *Urges* Member States to view 2014 as a target year by which concrete efforts will be made to improve family well-being through the implementation of effective national policies, strategies and programmes;

4. *Encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to develop appropriate policies and programmes that address family poverty, social exclusion, work-family balance and intergenerational issues and to share good practices in those areas;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to promote the delivery of family-centred benefits, such as social protection and social transfer programmes to reduce family poverty and prevent the intergenerational transfer of poverty;

6. *Further encourages* Member States to strengthen provisions for parental leave, extend flexible working arrangements for employees with family responsibilities, promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, enhance paternal involvement and support a wide range of quality childcare arrangements in order to improve work-family balance;

7. *Encourages* Member States to support social integration and intergenerational solidarity through the provision of social protection assistance and investments in cross-generational facilities, volunteering programmes for youth and older persons and mentoring and job-sharing programmes;

8. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle of shared parental responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child;

9. *Invites* Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues;

10. *Invites* Member States to consider undertaking activities in preparation for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national level;

11. *Invites* Member States, United Nations organizations and bodies, regional commissions, civil society organizations and academic institutions to continue providing information on their activities in support of the objectives of and preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year and to share good practices and data on family policy development;

12. *Invites* Member States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions to support, as appropriate, the preparations for regional meetings in observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

13. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to continue research activities and provide assistance to countries, upon their request;

14. *Recommends* that United Nations organizations and bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutions and the private sector play a supportive role in promoting the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the preparations for the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at all levels;

16. *Decides* to consider the topic "Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" at its sixty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family" of the item entitled "Social development".

## RESOLUTION 67/143

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/449 and Corr.1, para. 32)[44]

### 67/143. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[45] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[46] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008, 64/132 of 18 December 2009, 65/182 of 21 December 2010 and 66/127 of 19 December 2011,

*Recognizing* that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[47]

*Recognizing* that, by 2050, more than 20 per cent of the world's population will be 60 years of age or older, and recognizing also that the increase in the number of older people will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world,

*Deeply concerned* that the situation of older persons in many parts of the world has been negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis,

*Recognizing* the essential contribution that the majority of older men and women can continue to make to the functioning of society if adequate guarantees are in place,

*Noting* that older women outnumber older men, and noting with concern that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from their gender-based roles in society, compounded by their age or disability or on other grounds, which affect the enjoyment of their human rights,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration[45] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;[46]

2. *Welcomes* the holding of the global segment of the second cycle of review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action during the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, in 2013, and looks forward to the contribution that it could make to the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing;

3. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

4. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

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[44] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[45] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[46] Ibid., annex II.

[47] A/67/188.

5. *Also encourages* Member States to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life course and foster intergenerational solidarity in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

6. *Further encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, sustainable and feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead and to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process;

7. *Invites* Member States to identify key priority areas for implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacity to address ageing;

8. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

9. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing, and also encourages Governments to strengthen existing networks of national focal points on ageing;

10. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

11. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated when necessary by relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to better assess the situation of older persons and to set adequate monitoring mechanisms for programmes and policies geared towards protecting the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by older persons;

12. *Recommends* that States parties to existing international human rights instruments address the situation of older persons, where appropriate, more explicitly in their reports, and encourages treaty body monitoring mechanisms and special procedures mandate holders, in accordance with their mandates, to pay more attention to the situation of older persons in their dialogue with Member States, in their consideration of the reports or in their country missions;

13. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

14. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

15. *Encourages* Member States to adopt social policies that promote the development of community services for older persons, taking into account the psychological and physical aspects of ageing and the special needs of older women;

16. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

17. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons, through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights where applicable;

18. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender and disability perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to address and eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, gender or disability,

and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, in particular with relevant organizations with an interest in the matter, including organizations of older persons, of women and of persons with disabilities, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, and promote positive images of older persons;

19. *Further calls upon* Member States to address the well-being and adequate health care of older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, by designing and implementing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address these problems and their underlying factors;

20. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action;

21. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

22. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

23. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt and enforce guidelines that establish standards for the provision of long-term support and assistance to older persons;

24. *Recommends* that Governments involve older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them;

25. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable and adequate social and economic support for older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

26. *Encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

27. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

28. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, as well as regional initiatives, and by institutes such as the International Institute on Ageing in Malta and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna;

29. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

30. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its review and appraisal cycle, and in this regard encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

31. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

32. *Recommends* that the situation of older persons be taken into account in the ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[48] and considered in the discussions on the development agenda beyond 2015;

33. *Notes* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of resolution 65/182, and recognizes the positive contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and invited panellists, during the first three working sessions of the Working Group;

34. *Invites* States and relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter, to continue to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Working Group, as appropriate;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the Working Group, within existing resources, for organizing, in 2013, a fourth working session;

36. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/144

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/450 and Corr.1, para. 30)[49]

### 67/144. Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/143 of 19 December 2006, 62/133 of 18 December 2007, 63/155 of 18 December 2008, 64/137 of 18 December 2009 and 65/187 of 21 December 2010, and all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[50] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[51] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[51] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[52] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[53] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[54] and other international human rights instruments and that its elimination is an integral part of efforts towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

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[48] Resolution 55/2.

[49] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America.

[50] Resolution 217 A (III).

[51] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[52] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[53] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[54] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

*Recalling* the rules of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949[55] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,[56]

*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[57] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[58] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[59] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[60] and the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2010 of the Economic and Social Council,[61]

*Reaffirming also* the declarations adopted at the forty-ninth[62] and fifty-fourth[63] sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, and welcoming in that regard that the priority theme of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission will be "Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls",[64]

*Reaffirming further* the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, as well as those made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[65] at the 2005 World Summit[66] and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[67] and noting the attention paid to the elimination of all forms of violence against indigenous women in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007,

*Recalling* the inclusion of gender-related crimes and crimes of sexual violence in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[68] as well as the recognition by the ad hoc international criminal tribunals that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide or torture,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009, 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009 and 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010 on women and peace and security and all relevant Council resolutions on children and armed conflict, including resolutions 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009 and 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011,

*Recalling further* Human Rights Council resolutions 17/11 of 17 June 2011 on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: ensuring due diligence in protection,[69] 20/6 of 5 July 2012 on the elimination of discrimination against women[70] and 20/12 of 5 July 2012 on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: remedies for women who have been subjected to violence,[70]

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[55] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[56] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[57] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[58] Resolution 48/104.

[59] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[60] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[61] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/65/3/Rev.1), chap. III, sect. F, para. 125.

[62] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[63] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2010/232.

[64] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/15, para. 2 (*d*).

[65] Resolution 55/2.

[66] See resolution 60/1.

[67] See resolution 65/1.

[68] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[69] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[70] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

*Recalling* the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[71] including the responsibility of business enterprises to respect human rights, bearing in mind the different risks that may be faced by women and men,

*Recognizing* the importance of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and its role in leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and the high number of activities undertaken by the United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children,

*Deeply concerned* about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, and reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls throughout the world and to re-emphasize that violence against women and girls is unacceptable,

*Recognizing* that violence against women and girls is rooted in historical and structural inequality in power relations between men and women and that all forms of violence against women seriously violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment by women and girls of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitute a major impediment to the ability of women to make use of their capabilities,

*Recognizing also* that women's poverty and lack of empowerment, as well as their marginalization resulting from their exclusion from social policies and from the benefits of education and sustainable development, can place them at increased risk of violence, and that violence against women impedes the social and economic development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Acknowledging* the need to address violence against women and girls holistically, including through the recognition of linkages between violence against women and girls and other issues, such as HIV/AIDS, poverty eradication, food security, peace and security, humanitarian assistance, education, health and crime prevention,

*Acknowledging also* that trafficking in persons is one of the forms of transnational organized crime which exposes women to violence and that concerted efforts are needed to combat it, and in this regard stressing that full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[72] as well as the full and effective implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[73] will contribute to the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts and the high number of activities undertaken by States to eliminate all forms of violence against women that have resulted in the strengthening of legislation and the criminal justice system, such as adopting national action plans, strategies and national coordination mechanisms, implementing preventive and protective measures, including awareness-raising and capacity-building, providing support and services for women facing or subjected to violence and improving data collection and analysis,

*Emphasizing* that States should continue to adopt legislation, in accordance with their international human rights obligations and commitments, which addresses the issue of violence against women in a comprehensive manner by not only criminalizing violence against women and girls and providing for punishment of the perpetrators, but also including protection and preventive measures, with provisions for adequate funding for their implementation,

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[71] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[72] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[73] Resolution 64/293.

*Recognizing* that domestic violence remains widespread and affects women of all social strata across the world and the need to eliminate such violence,

*Recognizing also* the important role of the family in combating violence against women and girls and the need to support its capacity to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls,

*Recognizing further* the important role of the community, in particular men and boys, as well as civil society, in particular women's and youth organizations, in the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls,

1. *Stresses* that "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life;

2. *Recognizes* that gender-based violence is a form of discrimination that seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on a basis of equality with men;

3. *Also recognizes* that violence against women and girls persists in every country in the world as a pervasive violation of the enjoyment of human rights and a major impediment to achieving gender equality, development, peace and the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women,[74] as well as the report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences on violence against women with disabilities;[75]

5. *Also welcomes* the efforts and contributions at the local, national, regional and international levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the progress achieved in the Secretary-General's 2008–2015 campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and the regional components of the campaign, and stresses the need to accelerate the implementation of concrete follow-up activities by the United Nations system to end all forms of violence against women;

7. *Welcomes* the contributions already made by States, the private sector and other donors to the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to End Violence against Women, while stressing the importance of further funding in order to meet the annual target of 100 million United States dollars by 2015;

8. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence against women and girls, whether those acts are perpetrated by the State, by private persons or by non-State actors, including business enterprises, and calls for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence in the family, within the general community and where perpetrated or condoned by the State;

9. *Recognizes* that all human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and stresses that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Stresses* that it is important that States strongly condemn all forms of violence against women and refrain from invoking any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination as set out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;[58]

11. *Also stresses* that States have the obligation, at all levels, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women and girls, and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls and eliminate impunity and should

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[74] A/67/220.

[75] See A/67/227.

ensure protection, including adequate enforcement by police and the judiciary of civil remedies, orders of protection and criminal sanctions, and provision of shelters, psychosocial services, counselling and other types of support services, in order to avoid revictimization, and that to do so contributes to the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women subjected to violence;

12. *Reaffirms* that the persistence of armed conflicts in various parts of the world is a major impediment to the elimination of all forms of violence against women, and, bearing in mind that armed and other types of conflicts and terrorism and hostage-taking still persist in many parts of the world and that aggression, foreign occupation and ethnic and other types of conflicts are an ongoing reality, affecting women and men in nearly every region, calls upon all States and the international community to place particular focus on the plight, and give priority attention and increased assistance to relieving the suffering, of women and girls living in such situations and to ensure that, where violence is committed against them, all perpetrators of such violence are duly investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted and punished in order to end impunity, while stressing the need to respect international humanitarian law and human rights law;

13. *Stresses* the need for the exclusion of killing and maiming of women and girls, as prohibited under international law, and crimes of sexual violence from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes and to address such acts during all stages of the armed-conflict and post-conflict resolution process, while ensuring the full and effective participation of women in such processes;

14. *Also stresses* that, despite important steps taken by many countries around the world, States should continue to focus on the prevention of violence against women as well as on their protection and the provision of services, in order to complement more effectively the improved legal and policy frameworks, and should therefore monitor and rigorously evaluate the implementation of available programmes, policies and laws and improve, where possible, their impact and effectiveness;

15. *Further stresses* that States should take measures to ensure that all officials responsible for implementing policies and programmes aimed at preventing violence against women and girls, protecting and assisting the victims and investigating and punishing acts of violence receive ongoing and adequate training and access to information to sensitize them to the different and specific needs of women and girls, in particular those who have been subjected to violence, so that women and girls are not revictimized when seeking justice and redress;

16. *Stresses* that States should take all possible measures to empower and protect women against all forms of violence, to inform them of their human rights, including by disseminating information on the assistance available to women and families who have experienced violence and ensuring that timely and appropriate information is available to all women who have been subjected to violence, including at all stages of the justice system, and to inform everyone of women's rights and of the existing penalties for violating those rights;

17. *Calls upon* States, with the support of United Nations entities, to fully engage men and boys, as well as families and communities, as agents of change in preventing and condemning violence against women and girls and to develop appropriate policies to promote the responsibility of men and boys in eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls;

18. *Urges* States to continue to develop their national strategies, translating them into concrete programmes and actions and a more systematic, comprehensive, multisectoral and sustained approach, aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against women, including by achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and by increasing the focus on prevention, protection and accountability in laws, policies and programmes and their implementation, monitoring and evaluation, so as to ensure the optimal use of available instruments, by, for example:

(*a*) Establishing, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders and at all relevant levels, a comprehensive integrated national plan dedicated to combating violence against women and girls in all its aspects, which includes data collection and analysis, and prevention and protection measures, as well as national information campaigns, using resources to eliminate in the media gender stereotypes that lead to violence against women and girls;

(*b*) Reviewing and, where appropriate, revising, amending or abolishing all laws, regulations, policies, practices and customs that discriminate against women or have a discriminatory impact on women, and ensuring that the provisions of multiple legal systems, where they exist, comply with international human rights obligations, commitments and principles, including the principle of non-discrimination;

(*c*) Evaluating and assessing the impact of current legislation, rules and procedures regarding violence against women and the reasons for low reporting, reinforcing, where necessary, criminal law and procedure relating to all forms of violence against women and, where necessary, incorporating into law measures aimed at prevention and protecting and providing access to redress for women facing or subjected to violence;

(*d*) Promoting awareness among all stakeholders of the need to combat violence against women, and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, inter alia, through regular and repeated use and funding of awareness-raising campaigns nationwide and other ways to promote prevention and protection, such as international, regional and national conferences, seminars, training, publications, brochures, websites, audiovisual material, social media, television and radio spots, and debates, as appropriate;

(*e*) Encouraging the media to examine the impact of gender role stereotypes, including those perpetuated by commercial advertisements which foster gender-based violence and inequalities;

(*f*) Ensuring that there is sufficient knowledge, including expertise in effective legal approaches to eliminating violence against women and girls, awareness and coordination in the legal system and, to that end, where appropriate, appointing a focal point in the legal system for cases of violence against women and girls;

(*g*) Ensuring also the systematic collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data to monitor all forms of violence against women, including on the effectiveness of preventive and protective measures, with the involvement of national statistical offices and, where appropriate, in partnership with other actors, in order to review and implement effectively laws, policies, strategies and preventive and protective measures, while ensuring and maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of the victims;

(*h*) Establishing appropriate national mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of national measures, including national action plans, taken to eliminate violence against women, including through the use of national indicators;

(*i*) Providing adequate financial support for the implementation of national strategies and action plans to end violence against women and girls and other relevant activities;

(*j*) Allocating adequate resources to promote the empowerment of women and gender equality and to prevent and redress all forms and manifestations of violence against women;

(*k*) Adopting all appropriate measures, especially in the field of education, from the entry levels of the education system, to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women of all ages, in order to promote the development of respectful relations and to eliminate prejudices, harmful customary practices and all other practices based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes and on stereotyped roles for men and women, and by raising awareness of the unacceptability of violence against women and girls at all levels, including through schools, teachers, parents, religious leaders, youth organizations and teaching materials sensitized on gender equality and human rights;

(*l*) Improving the safety of girls at and on the way to school, including by improving infrastructure such as transportation, providing separate and adequate sanitation facilities, improved lighting, playgrounds and safe environments, conducting violence prevention activities in schools and communities and establishing and enforcing penalties for violence against girls;

(*m*) Developing gender-sensitive curricula for educational programmes at all levels and taking concrete measures to ensure that educational materials portray women and men, youth, girls and boys in positive and non-stereotypical roles;

(*n*) Promoting preventive measures at an early stage with families and children exposed to or at risk of violence, such as parenting education programmes, to reduce the risk of possible perpetration of violence or revictimization in later childhood and adulthood;

(*o*) Ensuring that the appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures are in place to protect children from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse;

(*p*) Ensuring also that the appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures are in place to eliminate the occurrence of child and forced marriages and to provide information regarding the harm associated with these marriages;

(*q*) Empowering women, in particular women living in poverty, by, inter alia, strengthening their economic autonomy and by ensuring their full participation in society and in decision-making processes, through, inter alia, social and economic policies that guarantee them full and equal access to all levels of quality education and training and to affordable and adequate public and social services, as well as equal access to financial resources and employment, and full and equal rights to own and have access to land and other property, and taking further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to violence;

(*r*) Treating all forms of violence against women and girls as a criminal offence, punishable by law, contributing, inter alia, to the prevention and non-recurrence of such crimes, and ensuring penalties commensurate with the severity of the crimes and sanctions in national legislation to punish, and redress, as appropriate, the wrongs caused to women and girls who are subjected to violence;

(*s*) Taking effective measures to prevent consent from becoming an impediment to bringing perpetrators of violence against women and girls to justice, while ensuring that criminal justice processes are gender-sensitive and that appropriate safeguards and measures to protect women facing or subjected to violence, such as restraining and expulsion orders against the perpetrators, testimonial aids and adequate and comprehensive measures for the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of violence into society, are in place;

(*t*) Encouraging the removal of all barriers to women's access to justice and ensuring that they all have access to effective legal assistance so that they can make informed decisions regarding, inter alia, legal proceedings and issues relating to family law, and also ensuring that they have access to just and effective remedies for the harm that they have suffered, including through the adoption of national legislation where necessary;

(*u*) Ensuring effective cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders, including all relevant public officials and civil society, in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of all forms of violence against women and girls;

(*v*) Developing or improving and disseminating specialized training programmes, including practical tools and good-practice guidelines on how to identify, prevent and deal with cases of violence against women and girls and on how to protect and assist them in an impartial, supportive and effective manner, for all stakeholders responsible for dealing with violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, including police officers, the judiciary, health workers, law enforcement personnel and civil society, and engaging statisticians, researchers and the media;

(*w*) Strengthening national health and social infrastructure to reinforce measures to promote and protect women's equal access to public health-care services, including for sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[76] and address the health consequences of all forms of violence against women, including by providing specialized health services such as supportive counselling, post-exposure prophylaxis for exposure to HIV and other services;

(*x*) Providing immediate protection and support through the establishment of or support to integrated centres, available and accessible also in rural areas, through which shelter, legal, health, psychological, counselling and other services are available to all women facing or subjected to violence, as well as their children, and, where such centres are not feasible, promoting collaboration and coordination among agencies;

(*y*) Encouraging the establishment or support of national and local helplines that provide information, counselling, support and referral services to women facing or subjected to violence;

(*z*) Ensuring that the prison system and probation services provide appropriate rehabilitation programmes for perpetrators, as a preventive tool against recidivism;

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[76] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

(*aa*) Supporting and engaging in partnerships with non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, and other relevant actors and the private sector to end violence against women and girls and to protect and support women facing or subjected to violence and witnesses;

19. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote the empowerment of women and gender equality in order to enhance national efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls, including, upon request, in the development and implementation of national action plans on the elimination of violence against women and girls, through, inter alia, official development assistance and other appropriate assistance, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies and best practices, taking into account national priorities;

20. *Stresses* the contribution of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals and the International Criminal Court to ending impunity, by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators of violence against women, and urges States to consider ratifying or acceding as a matter of priority to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[68] which entered into force on 1 July 2002;

21. *Calls upon* the inter-agency Programme Advisory Committee of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women, in consultation with the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, to continue to provide guidance on the implementation of the 2010–2015 strategy for the Trust Fund and to further enhance its effectiveness as a system-wide funding mechanism for preventing and redressing all forms of violence against women and girls and to give due consideration, inter alia, to the findings and recommendations of the external evaluation of the Trust Fund;

22. *Stresses* that, within the United Nations system, adequate resources should be assigned to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality and women's rights and to efforts throughout the United Nations system to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, and calls upon the United Nations system to make the necessary support and resources available;

23. *Also stresses* the importance of the Secretary-General's database on violence against women, expresses its appreciation to all the States that have provided the database with information regarding, inter alia, their national policies and legal frameworks aimed at eliminating violence against women and supporting victims of such violence, strongly encourages all States to regularly provide updated information for the database, and calls upon all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to support States, at their request, in the compilation and regular updating of pertinent information and to raise awareness of the database among all relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

24. *Acknowledges* the work of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as requested by the Statistical Commission, on the development of guidelines to support the production by Member States of statistics on violence against women;

25. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work with a view to increasing effective support for national efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women;

26. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences to present an annual report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report containing:

(*a*) Information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on their follow-up activities to implement resolution 65/187 and the present resolution, including on their assistance to States in their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women;

(*b*) Information provided by States on their follow-up activities to implement the present resolution;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions including information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and

programmes and the specialized agencies on recent follow-up activities to implement resolutions 64/137 and 65/187 and the present resolution, including on the progress made in enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women as a system-wide United Nations mechanism and on the progress of the Secretary-General's campaign to end violence against women, and urges United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to contribute promptly to that report;

29. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its sixty-ninth session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

## RESOLUTION 67/145

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/450 and Corr.1, para. 30)[77]

### 67/145. Trafficking in women and girls

*The General Assembly*,

*Reiterating its strong condemnation* of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes a serious threat to human dignity, human rights and development,

*Recalling* all international conventions that deal specifically with and address issues relevant to the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[78] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[79] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[80] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[81] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[82] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[83] and the Optional Protocol thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[84] and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[85] as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and the Human Rights Council on the issue,

*Recognizing* the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which entered into force on 25 December 2003 and provided for the first time an internationally agreed definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, aimed at the prevention of trafficking in persons, the protection of its victims and the prosecution of its perpetrators,

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[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[78] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[79] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[80] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[81] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[82] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[83] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[84] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[85] Ibid., vol. 96, No. 1342.

*Reaffirming* the provisions pertaining to trafficking in women and girls contained in the outcome documents of relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the strategic objective on the issue of trafficking contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[86]

*Reaffirming also* the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims,

*Welcoming in particular* the efforts of States, United Nations bodies and agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, including the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010,

*Welcoming* the interactive dialogue of the General Assembly, held on 3 April 2012, on the theme "Fighting human trafficking: partnership and innovation to end violence against women and girls", which united in a common endeavour Member States, the United Nations system, international organizations, civil society, the private sector and the media to emphasize the value of a comprehensive approach and inclusive international partnerships in effectively fighting global trafficking,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the resolutions on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, adopted by the Human Rights Council, including resolution 20/1 of 5 July 2012, entitled "Trafficking in persons, especially women and children: access to effective remedies for trafficked persons and their right to an effective remedy for human rights violations",[87]

*Noting with appreciation* the steps taken, including the reports of human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the serious crime of trafficking in persons, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible,

*Noting* the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the fact that part of her task is to integrate a gender- and age-specific perspective throughout the work of her mandate, inter alia, through the identification of gender- and age-specific vulnerabilities in relation to the issue of trafficking in persons,

*Acknowledging* the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[88] which entered into force on 1 July 2002,

*Bearing in mind* that all States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons, and to rescue victims as well as provide for their protection, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

*Seriously concerned* that an increasing number of women and girls are being trafficked, including to developed countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and that men and boys are also victims of trafficking, including for sexual exploitation,

*Recognizing* that certain efforts against trafficking in persons lack the gender and age sensitivity needed to address effectively the situation of women and girls, who are particularly vulnerable to trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labour, services and other forms of exploitation, thus highlighting the need to incorporate a gender- and age-sensitive approach into all anti-trafficking efforts,

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[86] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[87] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[88] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

*Recognizing also* the need to address the impact of globalization on the particular problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls,

*Recognizing further* that poverty, unemployment, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination and marginalization are some of the contributing factors that make persons vulnerable to trafficking,

*Recognizing* the need to reinforce efforts regarding the provision of relevant documents, such as birth registration documents, in order to lower the risk of being trafficked and to help to identify victims of trafficking in persons,

*Recognizing also* that, despite the progress made, challenges to preventing and combating trafficking in women and girls remain and that further efforts should be made to adopt adequate legislation and programmes to implement it and to continue improving the collection of reliable sex- and age-disaggregated data and statistics that would allow proper analysis of the nature, extent and risk factors of trafficking in women and girls,

*Recognizing further* the importance of exploring the link between migration and trafficking in persons in order to further efforts to protect women migrant workers from violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse,

*Concerned* about the use of new information technologies, including the Internet, for purposes of exploitation of the prostitution of others, for trafficking in women as brides, for exploiting women and children and for child pornography, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation of children,

*Concerned also* about the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from international trafficking in persons, especially women and children, without regard to dangerous and inhuman conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international standards,

*Recognizing* that victims of trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that women and girl victims are often subject to multiple forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of their gender, age, ethnicity, disability, culture and religion, as well as their origin, and that those forms of discrimination themselves may fuel trafficking in persons,

*Noting* that some of the demand for prostitution and forced labour is met by trafficking in persons in some parts of the world,

*Acknowledging* that women and girl victims of trafficking, on account of their gender, are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information on or awareness and recognition of their human rights and by the stigmatization often associated with trafficking, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to accurate information and recourse mechanisms in cases of violation of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

*Encouraging* the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh session to consider the issue of trafficking in women and girls within the framework of the priority theme for 2013, "Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls",

*Reaffirming* the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

*Reaffirming also* that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate trafficking in persons, especially women and children, demand the strong political commitment, coordinated and coherent efforts and active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

*Recognizing* that policies and programmes for prevention, protection, rehabilitation, repatriation and reintegration should be developed through a gender- and age-sensitive, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, with concern for the security of the victims and respect for the full enjoyment of their human rights and with the involvement of all actors in countries of origin, transit and destination, *Convinced* of the need to protect and assist all victims of trafficking, with full respect for the human rights of the victims,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[89] which provides information on measures by States and activities within the United Nations system to tackle trafficking in women and girls;

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[90] which examines the existing international legal framework and standards applicable to States and businesses, in addition to non-binding codes of conduct and principles adopted by businesses, as part of efforts to prevent and combat human trafficking;

3. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[78] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[79] taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

4. *Urges* Member States to consider signing and ratifying and States parties to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[81] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[82] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[83] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[91] and the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[92] as well as the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29),[93] the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81),[94] the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97),[95] the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111),[96] the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),[97] the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143),[98] the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181),[99] the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),[100] and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), of the International Labour Organization;

5. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, to fully and effectively implement the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[101] and the activities outlined therein;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of Governments, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls, and encourages them to further enhance their efforts and cooperation, including by sharing their knowledge, technical expertise and best practices as widely as possible;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations system to mainstream, as appropriate, the issue of trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, into its broader policies and programmes aimed at addressing economic and social development, human rights, the rule of law, good governance, education, health and natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction;

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[89] A/67/170.

[90] A/67/261.

[91] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[92] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[93] Ibid., vol. 39, No. 612.

[94] Ibid., vol. 54, No. 792.

[95] Ibid., vol. 120, No. 1616.

[96] Ibid., vol. 362, No. 5181.

[97] Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.

[98] Ibid., vol. 1120, No. 17426.

[99] Ibid., vol. 2115, No. 36794.

[100] Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

[101] Resolution 64/293.

8. *Welcomes* the focus given by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to ending violence against women and to increasing women's access to economic opportunities, as well as its work on building effective partnerships for the empowerment of women, which will contribute to the efforts to combat trafficking in persons;

9. *Calls upon* Governments to address, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters the trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation and in this regard to enhance preventive measures, including legislative measures, to deter exploiters of trafficked persons, as well as ensure their accountability;

10. *Also calls upon* Governments to strengthen measures aimed at empowering women and girls by, inter alia, enhancing their participation in society, including through education and skills training, and to take further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to being trafficked;

11. *Further calls upon* Governments to take appropriate measures to address the factors that increase vulnerability to being trafficked, including poverty and gender inequality, as well as other factors that encourage the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage, forced labour and organ removal, in order to prevent and eliminate such trafficking, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, including public officials engaging in or facilitating human trafficking, through, as appropriate, criminal and/or civil measures;

12. *Calls upon* Governments, the international community and all other organizations and entities that deal with conflict, post-conflict, disaster and other emergency situations to address the heightened vulnerability of women and girls to trafficking and exploitation and associated gender-based violence;

13. *Urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective gender- and age-sensitive measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy that integrates a human rights perspective, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans in this regard;

14. *Also urges* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support and allocate resources to strengthen preventive action, in particular education for women and men, as well as for girls and boys, on gender equality, self-respect and mutual respect, and campaigns, carried out in collaboration with civil society, to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels;

15. *Reiterates* the importance of continued coordination among, inter alia, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication in their activities in fulfilment of their mandates;

16. *Encourages* Governments to take appropriate measures to eliminate sex tourism demand, especially for children, through all possible preventive actions;

17. *Urges* Governments to develop educational and training programmes and policies and to consider, as appropriate, enacting legislation aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

18. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen national programmes and to engage in bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation, including by forging regional initiatives or plans of action,[102] to address the

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[102] Such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (see A/C.3/55/3, annex), the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed most recently in the European Union plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings, adopted in December 2005, the activities of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, the Organization of American States Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, and the activities of the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration in this field.

problem of trafficking in persons through, inter alia, the enhancement of information-sharing, sex- and age-disaggregated data, specific data collection and other technical capacities, and mutual legal assistance, as well as the combating of corruption and laundering of proceeds derived from trafficking, including for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation, and to ensure, as appropriate, that such agreements and initiatives are particularly responsive to the problem of trafficking as it affects women and girls;

19. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize all forms of trafficking in persons, recognizing its increasing occurrence for purposes of sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and abuse, sex tourism and forced labour, and to bring to justice and punish the offenders and intermediaries involved, including public officials involved with trafficking in persons, whether local or foreign, through the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with due process of law, as well as to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

20. *Urges* Governments to take all appropriate measures to ensure that victims of trafficking are not penalized or prosecuted for acts committed as a direct result of being trafficked and that they do not suffer from revictimization as a result of actions taken by Government authorities, and encourages Governments to prevent, within their legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of trafficking in persons from being prosecuted for their illegal entry or residence;

21. *Invites* Governments to consider setting up or strengthening a national coordinating mechanism, for example, a national rapporteur or an inter-agency body, with the participation of civil society, as appropriate, including non-governmental organizations, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, root causes, factors and trends in trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, and to include data on victims of trafficking disaggregated by sex and age;

22. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, from within existing resources, to take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly women and girls, including the factors that make women and girls vulnerable to trafficking; to discourage, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation and forced labour; to publicize the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue; and to emphasize that trafficking is a serious crime;

23. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide access to appropriate programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking, including through job training, legal assistance in a language that they can understand and health care, including for HIV/AIDS, and by taking measures to cooperate with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims;

24. *Encourages* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and civil society organizations, to undertake or strengthen campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations, rights and responsibilities with respect to migration, as well as information on the risks of irregular migration and the ways and means used by traffickers, so as to enable women to make informed decisions and to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking;

25. *Also encourages* Governments to review and strengthen, as appropriate, the enforcement of relevant labour and other laws within their territories or jurisdictions that are aimed at, or have the effect of, requiring business enterprises, including recruitment agencies, to prevent and combat human trafficking in supply chains, and to periodically assess the adequacy of such laws and address any gaps;

26. *Invites* the business sector to consider the adoption of ethical codes of conduct to ensure decent work and to prevent any form of exploitative practices that foster trafficking;

27. *Encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations to develop and implement gender- and age-sensitive programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of trafficking and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims;

28. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for, and to raise awareness among, law enforcement, judicial, immigration and other relevant officials on the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons, including the sexual exploitation of women and girls, and in this regard calls upon Governments to ensure that the treatment of victims of trafficking, especially by law enforcement officials, immigration officers, consular

officials, social workers and other first response officials, is conducted with full respect for the human rights of those victims and with gender and age sensitivity and observes the principles of non-discrimination, including the prohibition of racial discrimination;

29. *Invites* Governments to take steps to ensure that criminal justice procedures and witness protection programmes are sensitive to the particular situation of trafficked women and girls and that they are supported and assisted, as appropriate, in making complaints to the police or other authorities without fear and being available when required by the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time they have access to gender- and age-sensitive protection and, as appropriate, social, medical, financial and legal assistance, including the possibility of obtaining compensation for damages suffered;

30. *Also invites* Governments to intensify efforts aimed at the speedy disposition of cases of trafficking in persons and, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to devise, enforce and strengthen systems and mechanisms for combating trafficking in persons;

31. *Further invites* Governments to encourage media providers, including Internet service providers, to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of media, particularly the Internet, with a view to eliminating the exploitation of women and children, in particular girls, which could foster trafficking;

32. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism, travel and telecommunications industries, relevant recruitment agencies and mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, including through the dissemination by the media of information regarding the dangers of trafficking, the means used by traffickers, the rights of trafficked persons and the services available to victims of trafficking;

33. *Stresses* the need for the systematic collection of sex- and age-disaggregated data and comprehensive studies at both the national and the international levels and the development of common methodologies and internationally defined indicators to make it possible to develop relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to enhance information-sharing and data-collection capacity as a way of promoting cooperation to combat the trafficking problem;

34. *Invites* Governments, United Nations bodies, agencies and special mechanisms, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to undertake collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

35. *Invites* Governments, with the support of the United Nations, when necessary, and other intergovernmental organizations, taking into account best practices, to formulate training manuals and other informational materials and provide training for law enforcement, judicial and other relevant officers, and medical and support personnel, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of women and girl victims;

36. *Encourages* Governments and relevant intergovernmental bodies and international organizations to ensure that military, peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed in conflict, post-conflict and other emergency situations are provided with training on conduct that does not promote, facilitate or exploit trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual exploitation, and to raise the awareness of such personnel of the potential risks to victims of conflict and other emergency situations, including natural disasters, of being trafficked;

37. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenants on Human Rights[103] to include information and statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to their respective committees and to work towards developing a common methodology and statistics to obtain comparable data;

38. *Invites* States to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report that compiles information on successful interventions and strategies, as well as the gaps, in addressing the gender

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[103] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

dimensions of the problem of trafficking in persons and provides recommendations on the strengthening of human rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approaches within comprehensive and balanced efforts to address trafficking in persons.

## RESOLUTION 67/146

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/450 and Corr.1, para. 30)[104]

### 67/146. Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilations

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/117 of 9 December 1998 and 56/128 of 19 December 2001, Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 51/2 of 9 March 2007,[105] 52/2 of 7 March 2008[106] and 54/7 of 12 March 2010[107] and all other relevant resolutions,

*Reaffirming* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[108] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[109] together with the Optional Protocols thereto,[110] constitute an important contribution to the legal framework for the protection and promotion of the human rights of women and girls,

*Reaffirming also* the Beijing Declaration[111] and Platform for Action,[112] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[113] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[114] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[115] and their 5-year, 10-year and 15-year reviews, as well as the United Nations Millennium Declaration[116] and the commitments relevant to women and girls made at the 2005 World Summit[117] and reiterated in Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals",

*Recalling* the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, adopted in Maputo on 11 July 2003, which contains, inter alia, undertakings and commitments on ending female genital mutilation and marks a significant milestone towards the abandonment and ending of female genital mutilation,

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[104] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[105] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 7* (E/2007/27), chap. I, sect. D.

[106] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 7* (E/2008/27), chap. I, sect. D.

[107] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[108] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[109] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[110] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[111] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[112] Ibid., annex II.

[113] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[114] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[115] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[116] Resolution 55/2.

[117] See resolution 60/1.

*Recalling also* the decision of the African Union, adopted in Malabo on 1 July 2011, to support the adoption by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session of a resolution banning female genital mutilation,

*Recalling further* the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-sixth session that the Economic and Social Council recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a decision to consider the issue of ending female genital mutilation at its sixty-seventh session under the agenda item entitled "Advancement of women",[118]

*Recognizing* that female genital mutilations are an irreparable, irreversible abuse that impacts negatively on the human rights of women and girls, affecting about 100 million to 140 million women and girls worldwide, and that each year an estimated further 3 million girls are at risk of being subjected to the practice throughout the world,

*Reaffirming* that female genital mutilations are a harmful practice that constitutes a serious threat to the health of women and girls, including their psychological, sexual and reproductive health, which can increase their vulnerability to HIV and may have adverse obstetric and prenatal outcomes as well as fatal consequences for the mother and the newborn, and that the abandonment of this harmful practice can be achieved as a result of a comprehensive movement that involves all public and private stakeholders in society, including girls and boys, women and men,

*Concerned* about evidence of an increase in the incidence of female genital mutilations being carried out by medical personnel in all regions in which they are practised,

*Recognizing* that negative discriminatory stereotypical attitudes and behaviours have direct implications for the status and treatment of women and girls and that such negative stereotypes impede the implementation of legislative and normative frameworks that guarantee gender equality and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex,

*Recognizing also* that the campaign of the Secretary-General entitled "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and the database on violence against women will contribute to addressing the elimination of female genital mutilations,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the United Nations system to end female genital mutilations, in particular the commitment of 10 United Nations entities[119] announced in their joint inter-agency statement of 27 February 2008 on eliminating female genital mutilation, as well as the Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change, of the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund, to accelerate the elimination of the practice,

*Deeply concerned* that, despite the increase in national, regional and international efforts and the focus on the abandonment of female genital mutilations, the practice continues to exist in all regions of the world,

*Deeply concerned also* that a tremendous gap in resources continues to exist and that the shortfall in funding has severely limited the scope and pace of programmes and activities for the elimination of female genital mutilations,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on ending female genital mutilation,[120]

1. *Stresses* that the empowerment of women and girls is key to breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, and calls upon States parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[108] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[109] as well as their commitments to implement the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[121] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and

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[118] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2012, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2012/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[119] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Development Programme, Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Population Fund, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Fund for Women and World Health Organization.

[120] E/CN.6/2012/8.

[121] Resolution 48/104.

Development,[114] the Beijing Platform for Action[112] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[113] and of the special session of the Assembly on children;[122]

2. *Calls upon* States to enhance awareness-raising and formal, non-formal and informal education and training in order to promote the direct engagement of girls and boys, women and men and to ensure that all key actors, Government officials, including law enforcement and judicial personnel, immigration officials, health-care providers, community and religious leaders, teachers, employers, media professionals and those directly working with girls, as well as parents, families and communities, work to eliminate attitudes and harmful practices, in particular all forms of female genital mutilations, that negatively affect girls;

3. *Also calls upon* States to strengthen advocacy and awareness-raising programmes, to mobilize girls and boys to take an active part in developing preventive and elimination programmes to address harmful practices, especially female genital mutilations, and to engage community and religious leaders, educational institutions, the media and families and provide increased financial support to efforts at all levels to end those practices;

4. *Urges* States to condemn all harmful practices that affect women and girls, in particular female genital mutilations, whether committed within or outside a medical institution, and to take all necessary measures, including enacting and enforcing legislation, to prohibit female genital mutilations and to protect women and girls from this form of violence, and to end impunity;

5. *Also urges* States to complement punitive measures with awareness-raising and educational activities designed to promote a process of consensus towards the elimination of female genital mutilations, and further urges States to protect and support women and girls who have been subjected to female genital mutilations and those at risk, including by developing social and psychological support services and care, and to take measures to improve their health, including sexual and reproductive health, in order to assist women and girls who are subjected to the practice;

6. *Further urges* States to promote gender-sensitive, empowering educational processes by, as appropriate, reviewing and revising school curricula, educational materials and teacher-training programmes and elaborating policies and programmes of zero tolerance for violence against girls, including female genital mutilations, and to further integrate a comprehensive understanding of the causes and consequences of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls into education and training curricula at all levels;

7. *Calls upon* States to ensure that national action plans and strategies on the elimination of female genital mutilations are comprehensive and multidisciplinary in scope and incorporate clear targets and indicators for the effective monitoring, impact assessment and coordination of programmes among all stakeholders;

8. *Urges* States to take, within the general framework of integration policies and in consultation with affected communities, effective and specific targeted measures for refugee women and women migrants and their communities in order to protect girls from female genital mutilations, including when the practice occurs outside the country of residence;

9. *Calls upon* States to develop information and awareness-raising campaigns and programmes to systematically reach the general public, relevant professionals, families and communities, including through the media and featuring television and radio discussions, on the elimination of female genital mutilations;

10. *Urges* States to pursue a comprehensive, culturally sensitive, systematic approach that incorporates a social perspective and is based on human rights and gender-equality principles in providing education and training to families, local community leaders and members of all professions relevant to the protection and empowerment of women and girls in order to increase awareness of and commitment to the elimination of female genital mutilations;

11. *Also urges* States to ensure the national implementation of international and regional commitments and obligations undertaken as States parties to various international instruments protecting the full enjoyment of all human rights and the fundamental freedoms of women and girls;

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[122] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

12. *Calls upon* States to develop policies and regulations to ensure the effective implementation of national legislative frameworks on eliminating discrimination and violence against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilations, and to put in place adequate accountability mechanisms at the national and local levels to monitor adherence to and implementation of these legislative frameworks;

13. *Also calls upon* States to develop unified methods and standards for the collection of data on all forms of discrimination and violence against girls, especially forms that are underdocumented, such as female genital mutilations, and to develop additional indicators to effectively measure progress in eliminating the practice;

14. *Urges* States to allocate sufficient resources to the implementation of policies and programmes and legislative frameworks aimed at eliminating female genital mutilations;

15. *Calls upon* States to develop, support and implement comprehensive and integrated strategies for the prevention of female genital mutilations, including the training of social workers, medical personnel, community and religious leaders and relevant professionals, and to ensure that they provide competent, supportive services and care to women and girls who are at risk of or who have undergone female genital mutilations, and encourage them to report to the appropriate authorities cases in which they believe women or girls are at risk;

16. *Also calls upon* States to support, as part of a comprehensive approach to eliminate female genital mutilations, programmes that engage local community practitioners of female genital mutilations in community-based initiatives for the abandonment of the practice, including, where relevant, the identification by communities of alternative livelihoods for them;

17. *Calls upon* the international community, the relevant United Nations entities and civil society and international financial institutions to continue to actively support, through the allocation of increased financial resources and technical assistance, targeted comprehensive programmes that address the needs and priorities of women and girls at risk of or subjected to female genital mutilations;

18. *Calls upon* the international community to strongly support, including through increased financial support, a second phase of the United Nations Population Fund-United Nations Children's Fund Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change, which is currently due to end in December 2013, as well as national programmes focused on the elimination of female genital mutilations;

19. *Stresses* that some progress has been made in combating female genital mutilations in a number of countries using a common coordinated approach that promotes positive social change at the community, national, regional and international levels, and recalls the goal set out in the United Nations inter-agency statement[119] that female genital mutilations be eliminated within a generation, with some of the main achievements being obtained by 2015, in line with the Millennium Development Goals;

20. *Encourages* men and boys to take positive initiatives and to work in partnership with women and girls to combat violence and discriminatory practices against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilations, through networks, peer programmes, information campaigns and training programmes;

21. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system, civil society and all stakeholders to continue to observe 6 February as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation and to use the day to enhance awareness-raising campaigns and to take concrete actions against female genital mutilations;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, individually and collectively, take into account the protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls against female genital mutilations in their country programmes, as appropriate and in accordance with national priorities, in order to further strengthen their efforts in this regard;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-ninth session, an in-depth multidisciplinary report on the root causes of and contributing factors to the practice of female genital mutilations, its prevalence worldwide and its impact on women and girls, including evidence and data, analysis of progress made to date and action-oriented recommendations for eliminating this practice on the basis of information provided by Member States, relevant actors of the United Nations system working on the issue and other relevant stakeholders.

## RESOLUTION 67/147

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/450 and Corr.1, para. 30)[123]

### 67/147. Supporting efforts to end obstetric fistula

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/138 of 18 December 2007, 63/158 of 18 December 2008 and 65/188 of 21 December 2010 on supporting efforts to end obstetric fistula,

*Reaffirming* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[124] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[125] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[126] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[127] and their reviews, and the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls made at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance[128] and the 2005 World Summit,[129] as well as those made in the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals",[130]

*Reaffirming also* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[131] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[132] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[133] and urging States that have not done so to consider, as a matter of priority, signing, ratifying or acceding to those Conventions and the Optional Protocols thereto,[134]

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General,[135] and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

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[123] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen.

[124] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[125] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[126] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[127] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[128] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[129] See resolution 60/1.

[130] Resolution 65/1.

[131] Resolution 217 A (III).

[132] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[133] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[134] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378; ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[135] A/67/258.

*Stressing* the interlinkages between poverty, malnutrition, lack of or inadequate or inaccessible health-care services, early childbearing, child marriage, violence against young women and girls and gender discrimination as root causes of obstetric fistula, and that poverty remains the main social risk factor,

*Recognizing* that the difficult socioeconomic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty,

*Recognizing also* that early childbearing increases the risk of complications during pregnancy and delivery and entails a much higher risk of maternal mortality and morbidity, and deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, specifically timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care, cause high levels of obstetric fistula and other maternal morbidities, as well as maternal mortality,

*Noting* that a human rights-based approach to eliminating obstetric fistula is underpinned by the principles of, inter alia, accountability, participation, transparency, empowerment, sustainability, non-discrimination and international cooperation,

*Deeply concerned* about discrimination against women and girls and the violation of their rights, which often result in less access for girls to education and nutrition, their reduced physical and mental health and the enjoyment by girls of fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence compared with boys, and in their often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices,

*Welcoming* the contribution by Member States, the international community and civil society to the global Campaign to End Fistula, bearing in mind that a people-centred approach to social and economic development is fundamental for protecting and empowering individuals and communities,

*Deeply concerned* that, as the Campaign to End Fistula approaches its tenth anniversary, while some progress has been made, there remain significant challenges that require the intensification of efforts at all levels to end obstetric fistula,

*Recognizing* the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, undertaken by a broad coalition of partners, in support of national plans and strategies aimed at significantly reducing the number of maternal, newborn and under-five child deaths and disabilities as a matter of immediate concern by scaling up a priority package of high-impact interventions and integrating efforts in sectors such as health, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, poverty eradication and nutrition,

*Welcoming* the various national, regional and international initiatives on all the Millennium Development Goals, including those undertaken bilaterally and through South-South cooperation, in support of national plans and strategies in sectors such as health, education, gender equality, energy, water and sanitation, poverty eradication and nutrition as a way to reduce the number of maternal, newborn and under-five child deaths,

*Welcoming also* ongoing partnerships between stakeholders at all levels to address the multifaceted determinants of maternal, newborn and child health in close coordination with Member States based on their needs and priorities and the commitments to accelerate progress on the health-related Millennium Development Goals,

*Reaffirming* the renewed and reinforced commitments made by Member States for achieving Millennium Development Goal 5,

1. *Recognizes* the interlinkages between poverty, lack of or inadequate access to health-care services, early childbearing and child marriage as root causes of obstetric fistula, that poverty remains the main social risk factor and that the eradication of poverty is critical to meeting the needs and rights of women and girls, and calls upon States, in collaboration with the international community, to take action to address the situation;

2. *Stresses* the need to address the social issues that contribute to the problem of obstetric fistula, such as poverty, lack of or inadequate education for women and girls, lack of access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, early childbearing, child marriage and the low status of women and girls;

3. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure the right of women and girls to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[126] and

to develop sustainable health systems and social services with a view to ensuring access to such systems and services without discrimination, while paying special attention to adequate food and nutrition, water and sanitation, family planning information, increasing knowledge and awareness and ensuring equitable access to high-quality appropriate prenatal and delivery care for the prevention of obstetric fistula and the reduction of health inequities, as well as postnatal care for the detection and early management of fistula cases;

4. *Also calls upon* States to ensure the right to education for women and girls, of good quality, on an equal basis with men and boys and to ensure that they complete a full course of primary education, and to renew their efforts to improve and expand girls' and women's education at all levels, including at the secondary and higher levels, and including age-appropriate sex education, as well as vocational education and technical training, in order to, inter alia, achieve gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and poverty eradication;

5. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage, including in rural and remote areas, is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses and, in addition, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage, and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to provide intensified technical and financial support, in particular to high-burden countries, to accelerate progress towards the achievement of Millennium Development Goal 5 and the elimination of obstetric fistula;

7. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the activities of the United Nations Population Fund and other partners in the global Campaign to End Fistula, including the World Health Organization, in establishing and financing regional fistula treatment and training centres and, where necessary, national centres, by identifying and supporting health facilities that have the potential to serve as centres for treatment, training and convalescent care;

8. *Calls upon* States to accelerate progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 5 and its two targets by addressing reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, through the provision of family planning, prenatal care, skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care, postnatal care, and methods of prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and infections, such as HIV, within strengthened health systems that provide equal access to affordable, equitable and high-quality integrated health-care services and include community-based preventive and clinical care, as also reflected in the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals",[130] and the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health;

9. *Calls upon* States and/or the relevant funds and programmes, organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and invites the international financial institutions and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector:

(*a*) To redouble their efforts to meet the internationally agreed goal of improving maternal health by making maternal health-care services and obstetric fistula treatment geographically and financially accessible, including by ensuring universal access to skilled attendance at birth and timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care and family planning, as well as appropriate prenatal and postnatal care;

(*b*) To make greater investments in strengthening health systems, ensuring adequately trained and skilled human resources, especially midwives, obstetricians, gynaecologists and doctors, as well as investments in infrastructure, referral mechanisms, equipment and supply chains, to improve maternal health-care services and ensure that women and girls have access to the full continuum of care;

(*c*) To ensure equitable access through national policies, plans and programmes that make maternal and newborn health-care services, particularly family planning, skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care and obstetric fistula treatment, financially accessible, including in rural and remote areas and among the poorest women and girls, through, where appropriate, the distribution of health-care facilities and trained medical personnel, collaboration with the transport sector for affordable transport options, the promotion of and support for community-based solutions and the provision of incentives and other means to secure the presence in rural and remote areas of qualified health professionals who are able to perform interventions to prevent obstetric fistula;

(*d*) To develop, implement and support national and international prevention, care and treatment and socioeconomic reintegration and support strategies, policies and plans to eliminate obstetric fistula and to develop further multisectoral, multidisciplinary, comprehensive and integrated action plans in order to bring about lasting solutions and put an end to maternal mortality and morbidity and obstetric fistula, including by ensuring access to affordable, accessible, comprehensive, high-quality maternal health-care services; within countries, policy and programmatic approaches to address inequities and reach poor, vulnerable women and girls must be incorporated into all sectors of national budgets;

(*e*) To establish or strengthen, as appropriate, a national task force for fistula, led by the Ministry of Health, to enhance national coordination and improve partner collaboration to end obstetric fistula;

(*f*) To strengthen the capacity of health systems, in particular public health systems, to provide the essential services needed to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat existing cases by increasing national budgets for health, ensuring that adequate funds are allocated to reproductive health, including for obstetric fistula, ensuring access to fistula treatment through increased availability of trained, expert fistula surgeons and permanent, holistic fistula services integrated into strategically selected hospitals, thereby addressing the significant backlog of women and girls awaiting surgical repair of fistula, and encouraging communication among fistula centres to facilitate training, research, advocacy and fundraising and the application of relevant medical standards, including consideration of the use of the World Health Organization manual entitled "Obstetric Fistula: Guiding Principles for Clinical Management and Programme Development", which provides background information and principles for developing fistula prevention and treatment programmes, as appropriate;

(*g*) To mobilize funding to provide free or adequately subsidized maternal health-care and obstetric fistula repair and treatment services, including by encouraging networking among providers and the sharing of new treatment techniques and protocols to protect women's and children's well-being and survival and to prevent the recurrence of subsequent fistulas by making post-surgery follow-up and the tracking of fistula patients a routine and key component of all fistula programmes; access to elective caesarean sections for fistula survivors who become pregnant again should also be ensured to prevent fistula recurrence and to increase the chances of survival of mother and baby in all subsequent pregnancies;

(*h*) To ensure that all women and girls who have undergone fistula treatment, including the forgotten women and girls with incurable or inoperable fistula, have access to holistic social integration services and careful follow-up, including counselling, education, family planning and socioeconomic empowerment through, inter alia, skills development and income-generating activities, so that they can overcome abandonment and social exclusion; linkages with civil society organizations and women's and girls' empowerment programmes should be developed to help to achieve this goal;

(*i*) To empower fistula survivors to contribute to community sensitization and mobilization as advocates for fistula elimination, safe motherhood and newborn survival;

(*j*) To educate individual women and men, girls and boys, communities, policymakers and health professionals about how obstetric fistula can be prevented and treated, and increase awareness of the needs of pregnant women and girls, as well as of those who have undergone surgical fistula repair, including their right to the highest attainable standard of health, by working with community and religious leaders, traditional birth attendants, women and girls who have suffered from fistula, the media, social workers, civil society, women's organizations, influential public figures and policymakers, support the training of doctors, midwives, nurses and other health workers in life-saving obstetric care, and include training on fistula repair, treatment and care as a standard element of the training curricula of health professionals;

(*k*) To strengthen awareness-raising and advocacy, including through the media, to effectively reach families with key messages on fistula prevention and treatment and social reintegration;

(*l*) To strengthen research, monitoring and evaluation systems, including by developing a community- and facility-based mechanism for the systematic notification of obstetric fistula cases and maternal and newborn deaths to ministries of health, in a national register, as well as for the purpose of guiding the implementation of maternal health programmes;

(*m*) To strengthen research, data collection, monitoring and evaluation to guide the planning and implementation of maternal health programmes, including for obstetric fistula, by conducting up-to-date needs assessments on emergency obstetric and newborn care and for fistula, and routine reviews of maternal deaths and near-miss cases, as part of a national maternal death surveillance and response system, integrated within national health information systems;

(*n*) To improve data collection, pre- and post-surgery, to measure progress in addressing the needs for surgical treatment and the quality of surgery, rehabilitation and socioeconomic reintegration services, including post-surgery prospects for successful subsequent pregnancies, live births and severe health-related complications, so as to address the challenges of improving maternal health;

(*o*) To provide essential health-care services, equipment and supplies and skills training and income-generating projects to women and girls so that they can break out of the cycle of poverty;

10. *Urges* the international community to address the shortage of doctors and the inequitable distribution of midwives, nurses and other health workers trained in life-saving obstetric care and of space and supplies, which limit the capacity of most fistula centres;

11. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach young women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to designate 23 May as the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, and henceforth use the International Day each year to significantly raise awareness and intensify actions towards ending obstetric fistula;

13. *Invites* Member States to contribute to efforts to end obstetric fistula, including, in particular, the United Nations Population Fund Campaign to End Fistula, with the goal of eliminating obstetric fistula globally, in line with the targets of the Millennium Development Goal of improving maternal health;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

## RESOLUTION 67/148

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/450 and Corr.1, para. 30)[136]

### 67/148. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 66/132 of 19 December 2011, and recalling also the section of resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 entitled "Strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women",

*Deeply convinced* that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[137] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[138] are important contributions to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned,

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[136] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

[137] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[138] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

*Reaffirming* the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[139] the 2005 World Summit,[140] the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals[141] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming also that their full, effective and accelerated implementation is integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Welcoming* progress made towards achieving gender equality, but stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

*Recognizing* that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for full, effective and accelerated implementation,

*Welcoming* the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in reviewing the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and taking note with appreciation of all its agreed conclusions,

*Welcoming also* the progress of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women,

*Recognizing* that the participation and contribution of civil society, in particular women's groups and other non-governmental organizations, are important to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

*Reaffirming* that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting the empowerment of women and achieving gender equality by transforming structures of inequality, and reaffirming also the commitment to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, as well as the commitment to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender equality,

*Reaffirming also* the commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[142]

*Bearing in mind* the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes and gender stereotypes, which perpetuate discrimination against women and stereotypic roles of men and women, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to address inequality between men and women,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[143] and the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, adopted at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on AIDS, held on 10 June 2011,[144] in which, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women were recognized as fundamental for reducing the vulnerability of women to HIV,

*Welcoming* the integration of a gender perspective into the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[145] and in this regard commending UN-Women for its efforts to ensure coherence throughout the United Nations system in its advocacy for gender equality and the empowerment of women in the context of sustainable development,

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[139] See resolution 55/2.

[140] See resolution 60/1.

[141] See resolution 65/1.

[142] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[143] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[144] Resolution 65/277, annex.

[145] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Expressing serious concern* that the urgent goal of 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations system, especially at senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, remains unmet, and that the representation of women in the United Nations system has remained almost static, with negligible improvement in some parts of the system, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on improvement in the status of women in the United Nations system,[146]

*Reaffirming* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding,

*Recalling* Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009, 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009 and 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010 on women and peace and security and resolution 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009 on children and armed conflict,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[147]

2. *Reaffirms* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women[137] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[138] as well as the declaration adopted on the occasion of the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[148] and also reaffirms its commitment to their full, effective and accelerated implementation;

3. *Also reaffirms* the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the catalytic role of the Commission on the Status of Women, in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women based on the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session and in promoting and monitoring gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

4. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[149] are mutually reinforcing in respect of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, and in this regard welcomes the contributions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to promoting the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and invites States parties to the Convention to include information on measures taken to enhance implementation at the national level in their reports to the Committee under article 18 of the Convention;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to comply fully with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto[150] and to take into consideration the concluding observations as well as the general recommendations of the Committee, urges States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible and to regularly review such reservations with a view to withdrawing them so as to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, also urges all Member States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to consider doing so, and calls upon those Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

6. *Welcomes* the progress made in the effective functioning of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in regard to its governance structure, as well as administration, budgeting and human resources;

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[146] A/67/347.

[147] A/67/185.

[148] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2010/232.

[149] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[150] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

7. *Reaffirms* the important role of UN-Women in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women;

8. *Calls upon* UN-Women to continue to support gender mainstreaming across the United Nations system as an integral part of its work and, in that regard, to place a strong and more systematic focus on support for gender mainstreaming across the United Nations system;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment of UN-Women to support Member States in their efforts to develop and strengthen norms, policies and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women as well as to integrate gender perspectives into sectoral policy and normative frameworks;

10. *Urges* Member States to increase funding for the budget of UN-Women by providing, when legislative and budgetary provisions allow, core, multi-year, predictable, stable and sustainable voluntary contributions, recognizing the importance of adequate funding in enabling UN-Women to implement its strategic plan promptly and effectively, and recognizing also that the mobilization of financial resources for achieving its goals still remains a challenge;

11. *Encourages* all actors, including Governments, the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society, to continue to support the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in fulfilling its central role in the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and, as applicable, to carry out the recommendations of the Commission, welcomes in this regard the Commission's continued sharing of experiences, lessons learned and good practices in overcoming challenges to full implementation at the national and international levels and the evaluation of progress in the implementation of priority themes, and encourages intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to incorporate the outcomes of the Commission into their work;

12. *Calls upon* Governments and the organs and relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and other international and regional organizations, including financial institutions, and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to intensify action to achieve the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

13. *Reaffirms* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent violence against women and girls, provide protection to the victims and investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, calls upon Governments to elaborate and implement laws and strategies to eliminate violence against women and girls, encourages and supports men and boys to take an active part in the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence, encourages increased understanding among men and boys of how violence harms girls, boys, women and men and undermines gender equality, encourages all actors to speak out against any violence against women, and in this regard encourages Member States to continue to support the Secretary-General's ongoing campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and the UN-Women social mobilization and advocacy platform "Say NO – UNiTE to End Violence against Women";

14. *Reiterates its call upon* the United Nations system, including the main organs, their main committees and subsidiary bodies, functions such as the annual ministerial review and the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, and the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, to increase efforts to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all issues under their consideration and within their mandates, as well as all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and their follow-up processes, including those of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in 2012, and the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, at the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, in 2013;

15. *Reiterates* that the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session is essential to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard calls for the goal of gender equality and the empowerment of women to feature prominently in discussions on the post-2015 development framework, bearing in mind the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective;

16. *Requests* the entities of the United Nations system to systematically incorporate the outcomes of the Commission on the Status of Women into their work within their mandates, inter alia, to ensure effective support for

the efforts of Member States towards the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and in this regard welcomes the commitment of UN-Women to establish concrete results-based reporting mechanisms, as well as to ensure coherence, consistency and coordination between the normative and operational aspects of its work;

17. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

18. *Calls upon* Governments and the United Nations system to encourage women's groups and other non-governmental organizations specializing in gender equality and the empowerment of women to participate in intergovernmental processes, including through increased outreach, funding and capacity-building;

19. *Calls upon* intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations to systematically request the inclusion of a gender perspective in reports of the Secretary-General and other inputs to intergovernmental processes;

20. *Requests* that reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies systematically address gender perspectives through qualitative gender analysis and the provision of sex- and age-disaggregated data and, where available, quantitative data, in particular through concrete conclusions and recommendations for further action on gender equality and the empowerment of women, in order to facilitate gender-sensitive policy development, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to convey the importance of reflecting a gender perspective to all stakeholders who provide inputs to his reports;

21. *Encourages* Member States, with the support of, as appropriate, United Nations entities, including UN-Women, international and regional organizations and other relevant actors, to prioritize the strengthening of national data collection and monitoring capacities with regard to statistics disaggregated by sex and age, as well as national tracking indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women through multisectoral efforts and partnerships;

22. *Calls upon* all parts of the United Nations system to continue to play an active role in ensuring the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, through, inter alia, the maintenance of gender specialists in all entities of the United Nations system, as well as by ensuring that all personnel, especially those in the field, receive training and appropriate follow-up, including tools, guidance and support, for accelerated gender mainstreaming, and reaffirms the need to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review and redouble his efforts to make progress towards achieving the goal of 50/50 gender balance at all levels throughout the United Nations system, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, considering, in particular, women from developing and least developed countries, countries with economies in transition and unrepresented or largely underrepresented Member States, and to ensure managerial and departmental accountability with respect to gender balance targets, and strongly encourages Member States to identify and regularly submit more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, especially at more senior and policymaking levels, including in peacekeeping operations;

24. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue its efforts towards achieving the goal of gender balance, including with the active support of gender focal points, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh session and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system, under the item entitled "Advancement of women", and on progress made and obstacles encountered in achieving gender balance, with recommendations for accelerating progress, and up-to-date statistics, including the number and percentage of women and their functions and nationalities throughout the United Nations system, and information on the responsibility and accountability of the offices of human resources management and the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for promoting gender balance;

25. *Encourages* increased efforts by Governments and the United Nations system to enhance accountability for the implementation of commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the international, regional and national levels, including by improved monitoring and reporting on progress in relation to policies, strategies, resource allocations and programmes and by achieving gender balance;

26. *Reaffirms* that Governments bear the primary responsibility for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries in progressing towards the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

27. *Encourages* its Main Committees and subsidiary bodies, as well as the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, in the light of the analysis contained in the report of the Secretary-General and of the cross-cutting nature of gender equality and the empowerment of women, to make further progress in the integration of a gender perspective into their work;

28. *Recalls* Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/15 of 28 July 2009, and in that context encourages Member States to consider appropriate commemorative activities for the twentieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report annually to the General Assembly under the item entitled "Advancement of women", as well as to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, with an assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming, including information on key achievements, lessons learned and good practices, and recommendations on further measures to enhance implementation.

## RESOLUTION 67/149

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/451, para. 12)[151]

### 67/149. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office[152] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixty-third session[153] and the decisions contained therein,

*Recalling* its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner,

*Commending* the staff and implementing partners of the Office of the High Commissioner for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities,

*Underlining its strong condemnation* of all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are increasingly exposed,

1. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee in the course of the year, which is aimed at strengthening the international protection regime and at assisting Governments in meeting their protection responsibilities;

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[151] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[152] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/67/12).

[153] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/67/12/Add.1).

2. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixty-third session;[153]

3. *Acknowledges* the sixtieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[154] and the fiftieth anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness[155] in 2011, expresses appreciation for the convening and facilitation by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of an intergovernmental ministerial event in recognition of the importance of respecting and upholding the values and principles enshrined in those two instruments,[156] and welcomes the adoption at that meeting of a ministerial communiqué,[157] as well as the submission of pledges by 105 States and 3 international organizations;

4. *Reaffirms* the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto[158] as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime, recognizes the importance of their full and effective application by States parties and the values they embody, notes with satisfaction the number of States that are now parties to one or both instruments, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments, underlines, in particular, the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

5. *Welcomes* pledges by States to accede to the statelessness conventions, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[159] and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, as well as pledges to remove reservations to them, also welcomes the recent increase in the number of accessions to the two Conventions, notes the work of the High Commissioner in regard to identifying stateless persons, preventing and reducing statelessness and protecting stateless persons, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work in this area in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and Executive Committee conclusions;

6. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and strongly emphasizes, in this context, the importance of active international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing;

7. *Also re-emphasizes* that prevention and reduction of statelessness are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

8. *Further re-emphasizes* that protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

9. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue responding adequately, in cooperation with States, to emergencies and to pursue its efforts to strengthen its emergency capacity and thereby ensure a more predictable response to coordinated inter-agency efforts;

10. *Notes* the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to work in partnership and in full cooperation with relevant national authorities, United Nations offices and agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the continued development of

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[154] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[155] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

[156] Intergovernmental event, held in Geneva on 7 and 8 December 2011 at the ministerial level, of States Members of the United Nations on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the fiftieth anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

[157] A/AC.96/1110/Add.1, annex.

[158] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

[159] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

humanitarian response capacities at all levels, and recalls the role of the Office as the leading entity of the cluster for protection, camp coordination and management and emergency shelter in complex emergencies;

12. *Also encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, among other relevant United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian response and to contribute, in consultation with States, as appropriate, to making further progress towards common humanitarian needs assessments, as stated, among other important issues, in General Assembly resolution 66/119 of 15 December 2011 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

13. *Further encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to engage in and implement in full the objectives of the "Delivering as one" initiative;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made in the process of structural and management change to reinforce the capacity of the Office of the High Commissioner, and encourages the Office to focus on continuous improvement in order to enable a more efficient response to the needs of beneficiaries and to ensure the effective and transparent use of its resources;

15. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons as well as acts that pose a threat to their personal security and well-being, and calls upon all States concerned and, where applicable, parties involved in an armed conflict to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law;

16. *Expresses deep concern* about the increasing number of attacks against humanitarian aid workers and convoys and, in particular, the loss of life of humanitarian personnel working in the most difficult and challenging conditions in order to assist those in need;

17. *Emphasizes* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity and that the perpetrators of such acts are promptly brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

18. *Deplores* the refoulement and unlawful expulsion of refugees and asylum seekers, and calls upon all States concerned to ensure respect for the relevant principles of refugee protection and human rights;

19. *Notes with concern* that asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons are subject to arbitrary detention in some situations, welcomes the increasing use of alternatives to detention, and emphasizes the need for States to limit detention of asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons to that which is necessary;

20. *Expresses concern* at the large number of asylum seekers who have lost their lives at sea trying to reach safety, and encourages international cooperation to further strengthen search and rescue mechanisms;

21. *Emphasizes* that the international protection of refugees is a dynamic and action-oriented function that is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner and that it includes, in cooperation with States and other partners, the promotion and facilitation of the admission, reception and treatment of refugees in accordance with internationally agreed standards and the ensuring of durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups and paying special attention to those with specific needs, and notes in this context that the delivery of international protection is a staff-intensive service that requires adequate staff with the appropriate expertise, especially at the field level;

22. *Affirms* the importance of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in analysing protection needs and ensuring the participation of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, as appropriate, in the planning and implementation of programmes of the Office and State policies, also affirms the importance of according priority to addressing discrimination, gender inequality and the problem of sexual and gender-based violence, recognizing the importance of addressing the protection needs of women and children in particular, and underlines the importance of continuing to work on those issues;

23. *Recognizes* that birth registration provides an official record of a child's legal identity and is crucial to preventing and reducing statelessness, and welcomes pledges by States to ensure the birth registration of all children;

24. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

25. *Expresses concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

26. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving durable solutions to refugee problems and, in particular, the need to address in this process the root causes of refugee movements in order to avert new flows of refugees;

27. *Recalls* the important role of effective partnerships and coordination in meeting the needs of refugees and in finding durable solutions to their situations, welcomes the efforts under way, in cooperation with countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, including their respective local communities, relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to promote a framework for durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, which includes an approach to sustainable and timely return that encompasses repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities; and encourages States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to support, inter alia, through the allocation of funds, the implementation of such a framework to facilitate an effective transition from relief to development;

28. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of return and reintegration;

29. *Calls upon* States to create opportunities for resettlement as a durable solution, recognizes the need to increase the number of resettlement places and to improve the integration of resettled refugees, calls upon States to ensure inclusive and non-discriminatory policies in their resettlement programmes, and notes that resettlement is a strategic tool for the protection of and solutions for refugees;

30. *Notes with appreciation* the activities undertaken by States to strengthen the regional initiatives that facilitate cooperative policies and approaches on refugees, and encourages States to continue their efforts to address, in a comprehensive manner, the needs of the people who require international protection in their respective regions, including the support provided for host communities that receive large numbers of persons who require international protection;

31. *Notes* the importance of States and the Office of the High Commissioner discussing and clarifying the role of the Office in mixed migratory flows, in order to better address protection needs in the context of mixed migratory flows, including by safeguarding access to asylum for those in need of international protection, and also notes the readiness of the High Commissioner, consistent with his mandate, to assist States in fulfilling their protection responsibilities in this regard;

32. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

33. *Expresses concern* about the challenges associated with climate change and environmental degradation to the operations of the Office of the High Commissioner and the assistance it provides to vulnerable populations of concern across the globe, particularly in the least developed countries, and urges the Office to continue to address such challenges in its work, within its mandate, and in consultation with national authorities and in cooperation with competent agencies in its operations;

34. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to enhancing the capacity of and reducing the heavy burden borne by host

countries, whose generosity is appreciated, in particular those that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers, calls upon the Office to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, and notes with appreciation those donor States, organizations and individuals that contribute to improving the condition of refugees who remain vulnerable members of society;

35. *Expresses deep concern* about the existing and potential challenges posed by the world financial and economic crisis to the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, and calls upon the Office to further explore ways and means to broaden its donor base, so as to achieve greater burden-sharing by reinforcing cooperation with governmental donors, non-governmental donors and the private sector;

36. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute[160] and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions on refugees and other persons of concern, recalls its resolutions 58/153 of 22 December 2003, 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 59/170 of 20 December 2004, 60/129 of 16 December 2005, 61/137 of 19 December 2006, 62/124 of 18 December 2007, 63/148 of 18 December 2008, 64/127 of 18 December 2009, 65/194 of 21 December 2010 and 66/133 of 19 December 2011 concerning, inter alia, the implementation of paragraph 20 of the statute of the Office, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to annual and supplementary appeals issued by the Office for requirements under its programmes;

37. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his annual activities to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/150

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/451, para. 12)[161]

### 67/150. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[162] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[163]

*Reaffirming* that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[164] together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,[165] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

*Welcoming* the adoption, and the ongoing ratification process, of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative framework for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

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[160] Resolution 428 (V), annex.

[161] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liberia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[162] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[163] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[164] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[165] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

*Recognizing* the particular vulnerability of women and children among refugees and displaced persons, including exposure to discrimination and sexual and physical abuse, and in this regard acknowledging the importance of preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence,

*Gravely concerned* about the rising number of refugees and displaced persons in various parts of the continent,

*Acknowledging* the efforts of Member States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other stakeholders in improving the situation of refugees, and expressing grave concern about the deteriorating living conditions in many refugee camps in Africa,

*Recognizing* that refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV and AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the Joint Declaration adopted at the joint summit of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the East African Community on the Horn of Africa crisis, held in Nairobi on 8 and 9 September 2011, which, inter alia, expressed concern about the mass exodus of refugees into neighbouring countries, as well as the increased number of internally displaced persons due to the current humanitarian crises of drought and famine in the Horn of Africa,

*Taking note with appreciation also* of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, adopted by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region in 2006, and its instruments, in particular two of the protocols to the Pact, which are relevant to the protection of displaced persons, namely, the Protocol on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and the Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the generosity, hospitality and spirit of solidarity of African countries that continue to host the influx of refugees due to the humanitarian crises and protracted refugee situations, and in this regard expressing particular appreciation for the commitment and efforts of neighbouring countries in the recent humanitarian crises on the continent, and further acknowledging with appreciation the coordination of humanitarian assistance by the United Nations as well as the continuing efforts of donors, the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, regional organizations, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and other partners, with regard to, inter alia, voluntary return, reintegration and resettlement, in addressing the plight of refugees during the emergency,

*Recognizing* that host States have the primary responsibility for the protection of and assistance to refugees on their territory, and the need to redouble efforts to develop and implement comprehensive durable solution strategies, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, and burden- and responsibility-sharing,

*Emphasizing* that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem, in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

*Acknowledging* the sixtieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the fiftieth anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[166] in 2011, welcoming in this context the convening by the Office of the High Commissioner of an intergovernmental event at the ministerial level on 7 and 8 December 2011 in recognition of the importance of respecting and upholding the values and principles enshrined in those two instruments, and welcoming the adoption of a ministerial communiqué,[167] as well as the submission of pledges by States and relevant efforts at the national level for their implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[168] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[169]

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[166] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

[167] A/AC.96/1110/Add.1, annex.

[168] A/67/323.

[169] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/67/12).

2. *Calls upon* African Member States that have not yet signed or ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa to consider doing so as early as possible in order to ensure its early entry into force and implementation;

3. *Notes* the need for African Member States to address resolutely the root causes of all forms of forced displacement in Africa and to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent so as to forestall flows of refugees;

4. *Notes with great concern* that, despite all the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

5. *Welcomes* decisions EX.CL/Dec.686 (XX) and EX.CL/Dec.709 (XXI) on the humanitarian situation in Africa, insofar as they relate to persons of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its twentieth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 27 January 2012, and at its twenty-first ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa from 9 to 13 July 2012, respectively;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the Office of the High Commissioner, and commends the Office for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African countries of asylum, including by providing support to vulnerable local host communities, and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the initiatives taken by the African Union, the Subcommittee on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons of its Permanent Representatives Committee, and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in particular the role of its Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

8. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in identifying, through a participatory approach, the protection risks faced by the different members of the refugee communities, in particular the non-discriminatory treatment and protection of women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly;

9. *Affirms* that children, because of their age, social status and physical and mental development, are often more vulnerable than adults in situations of forced displacement, recognizes that forced displacement, return to post-conflict situations, integration in new societies, protracted situations of displacement and statelessness can increase child protection risks, taking into account the particular vulnerability of refugee children to forcible exposure to the risks of physical and psychological injury, exploitation and death in connection with armed conflict, and acknowledges that wider environmental factors and individual risk factors, particularly when combined, may generate different protection needs;

10. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of voluntary return, reintegration and resettlement;

11. *Also recognizes* the importance of early registration and effective registration systems and censuses as a tool of protection and as a means to the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance and to implement appropriate durable solutions;

12. *Recalls* the conclusion on registration of refugees and asylum seekers adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its fifty-second session,[170] notes the many forms of harassment faced by refugees and asylum seekers who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, recalls the responsibility of States to register refugees on their territories and, as appropriate, the responsibility of the Office of the High Commissioner or mandated international bodies to do so, reiterates in this context the

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[170] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/56/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. B.

central role that early and effective registration and documentation can play, guided by protection considerations, in enhancing protection and supporting efforts to find durable solutions, and calls upon the Office, as appropriate, to help States to conduct this procedure should they be unable to register refugees on their territory;

13. *Calls upon* the international community, including States and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of timely and adequate assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons, also reaffirms that assistance and protection are mutually reinforcing and that inadequate material assistance and food shortages undermine protection, notes the importance of a rights- and community-based approach in engaging constructively with individual refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their communities so as to achieve fair and equitable access to food and other forms of material assistance, and expresses concern with regard to situations in which minimum standards of assistance are not met, including those in which adequate needs assessments have yet to be undertaken;

15. *Also reaffirms* that respect by States for their protection responsibilities towards refugees is strengthened by international solidarity involving all members of the international community and that the refugee protection regime is enhanced through committed international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing among all States;

16. *Further reaffirms* that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, calls upon States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements or used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors, to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of camps;

17. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, calls upon States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum seekers, notes with interest that the High Commissioner has continued to take steps to encourage the development of measures to better ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors;

18. *Deplores* the continuing violence and insecurity which constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and security of staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian organizations and an obstacle to the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Office and the ability of its implementing partners and other humanitarian personnel to discharge their respective humanitarian functions, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all measures necessary to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of the Office and that of all humanitarian organizations discharging functions mandated by the Office, and calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice the persons responsible for such crimes;

19. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the protection system for refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, and encourages African States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying and enforcing the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[171]

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[171] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other entities concerned to continue and, where appropriate, intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities, in particular those Governments that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers;

21. *Reaffirms* the right of return and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

22. *Also reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return, recognizes that the voluntary repatriation and reintegration process is normally guided by the conditions in the country of origin, in particular that voluntary repatriation can be accomplished in conditions of safety and dignity, and urges the High Commissioner to promote sustainable return through the development of durable and lasting solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations;

23. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance that allows for the implementation of community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate, in agreement with host countries and consistent with humanitarian objectives;

24. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to the third-country resettlement needs of African refugees, notes in this regard the importance of using resettlement strategically, as part of situation-specific comprehensive responses to refugee situations, and to this end encourages States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make full use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement, where appropriate and feasible;

25. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum as well as internally displaced persons, where appropriate;

26. *Urges* the international community, in the spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, inter alia, as a result of repatriation possibilities, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

27. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner and interested States to identify protracted refugee situations which might lend themselves to resolution through the development of specific, multilateral, comprehensive and practical approaches to resolving such refugee situations, including the improvement of international burden- and responsibility-sharing and the realization of durable solutions, within a multilateral context;

28. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, notes the efforts of African States in strengthening the regional mechanisms for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[172] notes the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and

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[172] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

29. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions".

## RESOLUTION 67/151

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/452, para. 9)[173]

### 67/151. Report of the Human Rights Council

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 60/251 of 15 March 2006, by which it established the Human Rights Council, and 65/281 of 17 June 2011 on the review of the Council,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 62/219 of 22 December 2007, 63/160 of 18 December 2008, 64/143 of 18 December 2009, 65/195 of 21 December 2010 and 66/136 of 19 December 2011,

*Having considered* the recommendations contained in the report of the Human Rights Council,[174]

*Takes note* of the report of the Human Rights Council,[174] including the addendum thereto, and its recommendations.

## RESOLUTION 67/152

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/453, para. 17)[175]

### 67/152. Rights of the child

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child in their entirety, the most recent of which is resolution 66/141 of 19 December 2011,

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[173] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Cape Verde (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[174] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1).

[175] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

*Emphasizing* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[176] constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and, bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention,[177] calling for their universal ratification and effective implementation, as well as that of other human rights instruments,

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[178] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[178] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[179] the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance[180] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[181] the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[182] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[183]

*Recalling also* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of 2007,[184] as well as resolution 65/198 of 21 December 2010 on indigenous issues, in which it was decided to hold a high-level meeting in 2014, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,

*Reaffirming* that the general principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including, inter alia, the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development, provide the framework for all actions concerning children, including adolescents,

*Reaffirming also* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[185] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[186] and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[187] and recalling the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[188] the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[189] the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,[190] the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[191] the Declaration on the Right to Development[192] and the Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, held in New York from 11 to 13 December 2007,[193] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010,[194] and the outcome document, entitled "The future we want", adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,[195]

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[176] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[177] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[178] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[179] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[180] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[181] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[182] Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[183] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[184] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[185] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[186] Resolution 55/2.

[187] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[188] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[189] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[190] See resolution 2542 (XXIV).

[191] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[192] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[193] Resolution 62/88.

*Taking note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly[196] and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in Assembly resolution 66/141,[197] as well as the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children[198] and the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,[199] whose recommendations should be carefully studied, taking fully into account the views of Member States,

*Acknowledging* the important role played by national governmental structures for children, including, where they exist, ministries and institutions in charge of child, family and youth issues and independent ombudspersons for children or other national institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

*Recognizing* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*Reaffirming* that States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized in the Convention,

*Noting with appreciation* the work to promote and protect the rights of the child carried out by all relevant organs, bodies, entities and organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and relevant mandate holders and special procedures of the United Nations, as well as relevant regional organizations, where appropriate, and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizing the valuable role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations,

*Profoundly concerned* that the situation of children in many parts of the world has been negatively impacted by the world financial and economic crisis, and reaffirming that eradicating poverty continues to be the greatest global challenge facing the world today, recognizing its impact beyond the socioeconomic context,

*Profoundly concerned also* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases, lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation, environmental damage, natural disasters, armed conflict, foreign occupation, displacement, violence, terrorism, abuse, trafficking in children and their organs, all forms of exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

*Expressing deep concern* that, despite the recognition of the right of the child to express his or her views freely on all matters affecting him or her, and bearing in mind their evolving capacities, children are seldom seriously consulted and involved in such matters owing to a variety of constraints and impediments and that the full implementation of this right in many parts of the world has yet to be fully realized,

*Gravely concerned* about the devastating impact of some of the recent natural disasters, including on children, reaffirming the importance of providing speedy, sustainable and adequate humanitarian assistance in support of relief, early recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts of the affected countries, and reaffirming also the importance of ensuring that human rights, including child rights, are mainstreamed into these efforts,

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[194] Resolution 65/1.

[195] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[196] A/67/229.

[197] A/67/225.

[198] A/67/230.

[199] A/67/256.

## I

## Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto

1. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 1 to 6 of its resolution 66/141, and urges States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[176] its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[200] and its Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict[201] as a matter of priority and to implement them fully;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to promote the universal ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and calls for the effective implementation of the Convention and the above-mentioned Optional Protocols to ensure that all children may fully enjoy all their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing regularly other reservations with a view to withdrawing them in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;[185]

4. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption of its resolution 66/138 on 19 December 2011 on establishing an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure,[202] and calls upon States parties to implement it;

5. *Encourages* States parties, in implementing the provisions of the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, to take note of the recommendations, observations and general comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, including, inter alia, general comment No. 11 (2009) on indigenous children and their rights under the Convention;[203]

6. *Welcomes* actions of the Committee to monitor the implementation by States parties of the Convention, and notes with appreciation its actions to follow up on its concluding observations and recommendations, and in this regard underlines, in particular, the regional workshops and the participation of the Committee in national-level initiatives;

## II

## Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and non-discrimination against children

### Non-discrimination

7. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 9 to 11 of its resolution 63/241 of 24 December 2008, and calls upon States to ensure the enjoyment by all children of all their civil, political, cultural, economic and social rights without discrimination of any kind;

### Registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care

8. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 12 to 16 of its resolution 63/241, and urges all States parties to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children in matters relating to registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care, and, in cases of international parental or familial child abduction, encourages States to facilitate, inter alia, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention;

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[200] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[201] Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

[202] Resolution 66/138, annex.

[203] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/65/41), annex III.

9. *Recalls* the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, contained in the annex to its resolution 64/142 of 18 December 2009, as a set of orientations to help to inform policy and practice, and encourages States to take them into account;

10. *Also recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 19/9 of 22 March 2012, entitled "Birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law",[204] expressing concern at the high number of persons throughout the world whose birth is not registered and reminding States of their obligation to undertake birth registration without discrimination of any kind and to ensure universal birth registration, including late birth registration, and that registration procedures are simple, expeditious and effective and provided at minimal or no cost;

### Economic and social well-being of children, eradication of poverty, right to education, right to enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and right to food

11. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 17 to 26 of its resolution 63/241, as well as paragraphs 42 to 52 of its resolution 61/146 of 19 December 2006, on the theme of children and poverty, and paragraphs 37 to 42 of its resolution 60/231 of 23 December 2005, on the theme of children living with or affected by HIV and AIDS, and calls upon all States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field and by implementing their previous commitments relating to poverty eradication, the right to education and measures to promote human rights education, in accordance with the evolving capacities of the child, the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including efforts to address the situation of children living with or affected by HIV and AIDS and to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and clean drinking water and sanitation, the right to food for all and the right to an adequate standard of living, including housing and clothing;

12. *Expresses deep concern* about the rising levels of non-communicable diseases, particularly cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, diabetes and their risk factors, especially tobacco smoking and alcohol consumption, as well as childhood obesity, and their impacts on the health of children and adolescents, and recognizes the need to strengthen health and social support systems, including by providing child-centred care taking into account that children are the cornerstone of a whole-of-life approach to primary prevention and risk factor management, as well as to adopt multisectoral approaches to address the issue;

13. *Recognizes* the threat to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, posed by the global financial and economic crisis, which is connected to multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the food crisis and continuing food insecurity, volatile energy and commodity prices, environmental degradation and climate change, and calls upon States to address, in their response to these crises, the negative impact on the full enjoyment of the rights of children;

### Elimination of violence against children

14. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 27 to 32 of its resolution 63/241 and paragraphs 47 to 62 of its resolution 62/141 of 18 December 2007, on the theme of elimination of violence against children, condemns all forms of violence against children, and urges all States to implement the measures set out in paragraph 27 of its resolution 63/241;

15. *Urges* States to take, or strengthen, as appropriate, legislative and other measures to effectively prevent, prohibit and eliminate all forms of violence against children, in all settings;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the consolidated partnerships promoted by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to achieve progress in preventing and eliminating violence against children, in coordination with national Governments, United Nations agencies, regional organizations, human rights bodies and mechanisms and representatives of civil society and with the participation of children;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the thematic report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children on tackling violence in schools: a global perspective — bridging

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[204] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

the gap between standards and practice, and the joint report of the Special Representative, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on prevention of and responses to violence against children within the juvenile justice system;[205]

### Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations

18. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 42 of its resolution 63/241, and calls upon all States to promote and protect all human rights of all children in particularly difficult situations and to implement programmes and measures that provide them with special protection and assistance, including access to health care, education and social services, as well as, where appropriate and feasible, voluntary repatriation, reintegration, family tracing and family reunification, in particular for children who are unaccompanied, and to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration;

19. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 19/37 of 23 March 2012 on the rights of the child,[204] and calls for its implementation;

### Children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law and children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law

20. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 43 to 47 of its resolution 63/241, and calls upon all States to respect and protect the rights of children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law, as well as children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law;

### Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

21. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 48 to 50 of its resolution 63/241, and calls upon all States to prevent, criminalize, prosecute and punish all forms of the sale of children, including for the purposes of the transfer of organs of the child for profit, child slavery, commercial sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution and child pornography, with the aim of eradicating those practices and the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies for these purposes, to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices and take measures to eliminate the demand that fosters them, as well as to address the needs of victims effectively and take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

22. *Calls upon* all States to develop and implement programmes and policies to protect children, particularly girls, who are at increased risk of violence, exploitation and abuse, from abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation, child prostitution, child pornography, child sex tourism and child abduction, and calls upon States to implement strategies to locate and assist all children subject to these violations;

23. *Also calls upon* all States to enact and enforce necessary legislative or other measures, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to prevent the distribution over the Internet and in all other media of child pornography, including depictions of child sexual abuse, ensuring that adequate mechanisms are in place to enable the reporting and removal of such material and that its creators, distributors and collectors are prosecuted as appropriate;

### Children affected by armed conflict

24. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 51 to 63 of its resolution 63/241, condemns in the strongest terms all violations and abuses committed against children affected by armed conflict, and in this regard urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged, in contravention of applicable international law, including humanitarian law, in the recruitment and use of children, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, and in recurrent attacks on schools and/or hospitals, as well as in all other violations and abuses against children, to take time-bound and effective measures to end them, and urges all States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society to continue to give serious attention to, and to protect and assist child victims of, all violations and abuses committed against children in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with international humanitarian law, including the First to Fourth Geneva Conventions;[206]

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[205] A/HRC/21/25.

[206] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

25. *Also reaffirms* the essential roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Human Rights Council for the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of children, including children affected by armed conflict, notes the increasing role played by the Security Council in ensuring protection for children affected by armed conflict, and also notes the activities undertaken by the Peacebuilding Commission, within its mandate, in areas that promote and contribute to the enjoyment of the rights and welfare of children;

26. *Notes* the efforts taken to end impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators of the most serious crimes against children under national and international law, and stresses the need for the alleged perpetrators of those crimes to be held accountable under national justice or, where applicable, international justice;

27. *Notes with appreciation* the steps taken regarding Security Council resolutions 1539 (2004) of 22 April 2004, 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009, 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 and 2068 (2012) of 19 September 2012, and the efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict in accordance with those resolutions, with the participation of and in cooperation with national Governments and relevant United Nations and civil society actors, including at the country level, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that information collected and communicated by the monitoring and reporting mechanism is accurate, objective, reliable and verifiable, and in this regard encourages the work and the deployment, as appropriate, of United Nations child protection advisers in peacekeeping operations and political and peacebuilding missions;

### Child labour

28. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 64 to 80 of its resolution 63/241, on the theme of child labour, and calls upon all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, and to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour;

29. *Notes with interest* the outcome of the Hague Global Child Labour Conference, including the Road Map for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2016;

30. *Calls upon* all States to take into account the global report of the Director-General of the International Labour Organization on accelerating action against child labour;

31. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying both the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)[207] and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),[208] of the International Labour Organization;

### Rights of children with disabilities

32. *Recognizes* that all children with disabilities should have full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other children, as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[179] reaffirms paragraphs 31 to 45 of its resolution 66/141, and urges all States to implement the measures set out in paragraph 43 of the same resolution;

## III

## Rights of indigenous children

33. *Reaffirms* that indigenous children are holders of all rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

34. *Also reaffirms* the right of indigenous children, in community with other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practise their own religion or belief and to use their own language;

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[207] Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

[208] Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.

35. *Reaffirms its commitment* to actively promoting the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[184] which provides important guidance on the rights of indigenous peoples and individuals, including specific reference to the rights of indigenous children in a number of areas;

36. *Recognizes* that the full realization of children's rights requires the adoption and implementation of comprehensive policies and programmes for all children, including indigenous children;

37. *Also recognizes* the importance for indigenous children to learn and transmit their cultures, to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs and to use and transmit their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures;

38. *Further recognizes* that indigenous children often face multiple forms of discrimination and that discrimination against and exploitation of indigenous children, particularly girls, including economic exploitation, harm their quality of life and may reduce their survival prospects, and expresses grave concern that indigenous children face violations of their human rights as well as discriminatory and attitudinal barriers to their participation and inclusion in society;

39. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that indigenous children are protected against all forms of discrimination and exploitation, which can be harmful to the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development;

40. *Reaffirms* that the eradication of poverty is essential to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the full realization of the rights of all children, including for indigenous children, and expresses deep concern that high levels of malnutrition and preventable diseases continue to be major obstacles to the realization of these rights, in particular the right to life and the right to food, and to the ability of the child to develop, and also recognizes the need to reduce child mortality and ensure comprehensive child development;

41. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate measures to safeguard the realization of the right to education for indigenous children, including their access to quality education, on the basis of equal opportunity, in a manner conducive to their fullest possible social inclusion and individual development, including through the provision of compulsory primary education that is available free to all and, when possible, is provided in their own language, and to take all appropriate measures to make all other levels and all forms of education available and accessible to indigenous children without discrimination;

42. *Notes with appreciation* the effective work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including its advice No. 1 (2009) on the right of indigenous peoples to education;[209]

43. *Reaffirms* that States should take effective and appropriate measures to ensure that indigenous children, on an equal basis with others, have access to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as to information and education, including on reproductive and family planning and HIV prevention, that is age-appropriate and in an accessible format;

44. *Calls upon* all States to include, within the overall context of policies and programmes for the realization of the rights of the child, for all children within their jurisdiction, the relevant provisions for the realization of these rights for indigenous children, in particular:

(*a*) To ensure that the rights of the child, including the rights of indigenous children, are fully respected, without discrimination on any grounds, including by adopting and/or continuing to implement regulations and measures that ensure the full realization of all their rights;

(*b*) To take measures to collect and disaggregate relevant information, including statistical and research data, as appropriate, in order to identify and address the barriers faced by indigenous children in exercising their rights, as children, as well as take measures to enhance international cooperation and partnership, where appropriate, in relation to the provision of technical and capacity-building assistance to support such measures;

(*c*) To encourage greater research, including the development of common indicators, into the situation of indigenous children in rural and urban areas;

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[209] A/HRC/12/33, annex.

(*d*) To take appropriate measures, in consultation with indigenous peoples, to develop culturally sensitive education programmes and services as well as training programmes and educational measures to prevent and eliminate discrimination against indigenous children through the elimination of stereotypes and prejudices, and in this regard, when possible, to review and revise school curricula and textbooks to develop respect among all children for indigenous cultures, history, language and values, to undertake measures to effectively address the comparatively higher dropout rates among indigenous youth and to consider taking effective measures to increase the number of teachers from indigenous communities or who speak indigenous languages;

(*e*) To strengthen efforts towards poverty eradication and to adopt, implement and/or strengthen, in coordination with indigenous peoples, appropriate policies aimed at ensuring the right to an adequate standard of living for indigenous children and their families, along with equal access to quality and affordable services, especially health, nutrition, education, welfare, social protection, safe drinking water and sanitation and other services that are essential for the child's well-being and, in this regard, to pay particular attention to the most vulnerable children and to those living under especially difficult circumstances;

(*f*) To recognize that, where health disparities exist between indigenous peoples, including indigenous children, and non-indigenous populations in the incidence of non-communicable diseases, appropriate measures need to be taken in order to address the impacts thereof;

(*g*) To address the root causes preventing indigenous children's views from being heard, in accordance with their evolving capacities, and from being taken into account on matters affecting them, to inform children, parents, legal guardians, other caregivers and the general public about the rights of the child and to raise awareness, including through partnerships with civil society, the private sector and the media, while being attentive to their influence on children, of the importance and benefits of the participation of children in society;

(*h*) To develop measures to ensure that indigenous children have access to information in their own language, where possible;

(*i*) To take all necessary measures to ensure universal access to birth registration of indigenous children immediately after birth, including those living in remote areas by, inter alia, removing barriers that impede their registration, ensuring the existence of a minimal or no cost, simple, effective, expeditious and accessible birth registration system, guaranteeing their right to a name and a nationality, respecting the selection by parents of a name of their own choosing, respecting the child's preservation of his or her identity and, as far as possible, protecting the child's knowing and being cared for by his or her parents;

(*j*) To ensure that indigenous children have access to the same range, quality and standard of free or affordable, gender-sensitive, culturally sensitive and age-appropriate health care and programmes as provided to other children and adolescents, including in the area of sexual and reproductive health, and to take measures, in consultation with indigenous peoples, to eliminate child and maternal mortality and malnutrition and to develop measures to support those services inside their communities;

(*k*) To adopt legislative and other appropriate measures, including cross-sectoral approaches, to ensure the full realization by indigenous children of the right to education, including by ensuring that, on the basis of equal opportunity, accessibility and inclusiveness, they are not excluded from accessible, free and compulsory primary education, from early childhood care and development to vocational training and preparation for work, and to take measures, in consultation with indigenous peoples, for indigenous children to have access to education as well as to encourage a multicultural approach and, when possible, education in their own language;

(*l*) To take, where appropriate, decisive steps to develop strategies regarding respect for and promotion of indigenous children's cultural identities and languages;

(*m*) To take steps to support and encourage human rights education and training, on values such as respect for human dignity, non-discrimination, equality, justice, non-violence, tolerance and peace, at home, in educational centres and in education programmes, in order to promote the awareness and empowerment of children, including indigenous children, with respect to their rights and responsibilities;

(*n*) To strengthen efforts to effectively eliminate child labour which is harmful to health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, including among indigenous children;

(*o*) To develop strategies for the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children, including indigenous children, by adopting appropriate policy measures aimed at, inter alia, raising awareness, capacity-building for professionals working with and for children, supporting effective parenting programmes, fostering research, collecting data on the incidence of violence against children, and developing and introducing child- and gender-sensitive, accessible, safe and confidential reporting and complaints mechanisms;

(*p*) To take steps to design and implement preventive and comprehensive anti-bullying measures, including in educational settings, that address bullying and peer-directed aggression against children, including against indigenous children, which could include the training of educators and family members and also raising awareness of this matter among children;

(*q*) To take measures to eliminate gender-based violence against and sexual exploitation and trafficking of indigenous children, and to actively involve indigenous peoples and their communities in the efforts towards the elimination of these practices;

(*r*) To take all appropriate measures to ensure protection and safety for all children, including indigenous children, during and after situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, including adopting and implementing programmes to ensure the physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of these children and ensure that such recovery, reintegration and rehabilitation take place in an environment which fosters the well-being, health, self-respect and dignity of the child;

(*s*) To develop and implement a comprehensive juvenile justice policy that includes, where appropriate, interpretation or other proper means to ensure that indigenous children can understand and be understood, as well as the introduction of alternative measures allowing for responses to juvenile delinquency for these children without resorting to judicial procedures;

(*t*) To take all appropriate measures to ensure that indigenous children are given the opportunity to be heard on issues directly affecting them, bearing in mind their evolving capacities, in determining and developing priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development, in particular in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them, and to promote indigenous children's active involvement and effective participation, including through indigenous peoples' organizations and/or institutions chosen by indigenous peoples themselves;

45. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the United Nations system, to strengthen international cooperation to ensure the realization of the rights of the child, including for indigenous children, inter alia, by supporting national initiatives that give more emphasis to the development of indigenous children, as appropriate, and by reinforcing international cooperation measures in fields of research or on the transfer of technology such as assistive technologies;

46. *Calls upon* the relevant entities, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, donor institutions, including the international financial institutions, and bilateral donors to support, when requested, national initiatives, including development programmes for indigenous children, financially and technically, as well as to enhance effective international cooperation and partnership to strengthen knowledge-sharing and capacity-building, with particular attention to policy development, programme development, research and professional training;

## IV

## Follow-up

47. *Recognizes* the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and expresses support for her work to promote the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children in all regions and to advance the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children;[210]

48. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General extend the mandate of the Special Representative on Violence against Children, as established in paragraphs 58 and 59 of its resolution 62/141, for a further period of three years, and decides that for the effective performance of the mandate and the sustainability of the core activities the mandate of the Special Representative shall be funded from the regular budget starting from the biennium 2014–2015;

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[210] See A/61/299 and A/62/209.

49. *Urges* all States, requests United Nations entities and agencies, and invites regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in promoting further implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children, and encourages States to provide support to the Special Representative, including adequate voluntary financial support, to her for the continued, effective and independent performance of her mandate, as set out in resolution 62/141, and invites the private sector to provide voluntary contributions for that purpose;

50. *Welcomes* the appointment of Ms. Leila Zerrougui as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, and recognizes the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative pursuant to General Assembly resolution 51/77 of 12 December 1996, as extended by resolutions 60/231 and 66/141;

51. *Decides*:

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a comprehensive report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and on the implementation of the priority themes of the resolution entitled "Rights of the child" from its sixty-first to sixty-fifth sessions, including progress that has been achieved and challenges that still remain, taking into account information provided by Member States;

(*b*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the children and armed conflict agenda;

(*c*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to continue to submit annual reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the violence against children agenda;

(*d*) To request the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography agenda;

(*e*) To invite the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children";

(*f*) To continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

## RESOLUTION 67/153

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/454, para. 11)[211]

### 67/153. Rights of indigenous peoples

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council relating to the rights of indigenous peoples,

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[211] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 65/198 of 21 December 2010 and 66/142 of 19 December 2011, as well as its resolution 66/296 of 17 September 2012 on the organization of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held on 22 and 23 September 2014, and noting its inclusive preparatory process, as well as the participation of indigenous peoples in the Conference,

*Inviting* Governments and indigenous peoples to organize international or regional conferences and other thematic events to contribute to the preparations for the Conference, and encouraging the participation of the three United Nations mechanisms on indigenous peoples[212] at these events,

*Recalling* its resolution 59/174 of 20 December 2004 on the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (2005–2014) and its resolution 60/142 of 16 December 2005 on the Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, in which it adopted "Partnership for action and dignity" as the theme for the Second Decade,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[213] which addresses their individual and collective rights,

*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[214] the 2005 World Summit Outcome[215] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[216]

*Recalling* the outcome document entitled "The future we want" of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,[217]

*Recalling also* Human Rights Council resolution 21/24 of 28 September 2012 on human rights and indigenous peoples,[218]

*Recalling further* Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 49/7 of 11 March 2005, entitled "Indigenous women: beyond the ten-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action",[219] and 56/4 of 9 March 2012, entitled "Indigenous women: key actors in poverty and hunger eradication",[220]

*Recalling* the first Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,[221]

*Stressing* the importance of promoting and pursuing the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples also through international cooperation to support national and regional efforts to achieve the ends of the Declaration, including the right to maintain and strengthen the distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions of indigenous peoples and the right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State,

*Recognizing* the value and the diversity of the cultures and the form of social organization of indigenous peoples and their holistic traditional scientific knowledge of their lands, natural resources and environment,

*Concerned* about the extreme disadvantages that indigenous peoples have typically faced across a range of social and economic indicators and about the impediments to their full enjoyment of their rights,

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[212] Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.

[213] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[214] Resolution 55/2.

[215] Resolution 60/1.

[216] Resolution 65/1.

[217] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[218] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. I.

[219] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[220] Ibid., *2012, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2012/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[221] See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

*Recalling* its resolution 65/198, by which it decided to expand the mandate of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations so that it could assist representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations and communities to participate in sessions of the Human Rights Council and of human rights treaty bodies, on the basis of diverse and renewed participation and in accordance with relevant rules and regulations, including Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, and urged States to contribute to the Fund,

*Recalling also* its decision, taken in its resolution 66/296, to expand the mandate of the Fund so that it can assist, in an equitable manner, representatives of indigenous peoples, organizations, institutions and communities to participate in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, including in the preparatory process, in accordance with relevant rules and regulations,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, takes note with appreciation of his report on the rights of indigenous peoples,[222] and encourages all Governments to respond favourably to his requests for visits;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the evaluation of the progress made in the achievement of the goal and objectives of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;[223]

3. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the ways and means of promoting participation at the United Nations of indigenous peoples' representatives on issues affecting them;[224]

4. *Further takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations;[225]

5. *Urges* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the Trust Fund for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, and invites indigenous organizations and private institutions and individuals to do likewise;

6. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169)[226] to consider doing so and to consider supporting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[213] and welcomes the increased support by States for the Declaration;

7. *Encourages* States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, to take the appropriate measures, including legislative measures, to achieve the ends of the Declaration;

8. *Encourages* all interested parties, in particular indigenous peoples, to disseminate and consider good practices at different levels as a practical guide on how to attain the goals of the Declaration;

9. *Welcomes* the celebration of the high-level event to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Declaration, held on 17 May 2012 during the eleventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues with the participation of Member States and representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations, as part of the preparations for the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in 2014;

10. *Also welcomes* the proclamation by the General Assembly of the year 2013 as the International Year of Quinoa[227] and the global launch of the Year, to be held on 31 January 2013, and encourages all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations and all other relevant stakeholders to take advantage of the Year as a way of promoting the traditional knowledge of the Andean indigenous peoples, contributing to the achievement of food

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[222] A/66/288.

[223] A/67/273.

[224] A/HRC/21/24.

[225] A/67/221.

[226] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1650, No. 28383.

[227] See resolution 66/221.

security, nutrition and poverty eradication and raising awareness of their contribution to social, economic and environmental development, and to share good practices on the implementation of activities during the Year;[228]

11. *Decides* to continue, at its sixty-ninth session, its consideration of the ways and means of promoting the participation of representatives of indigenous peoples at meetings of relevant United Nations bodies and other relevant United Nations meetings and processes on issues affecting indigenous peoples, on the basis of the rules of procedure of such bodies and existing United Nations procedural rules and regulations, taking into account the report of the Secretary-General,[224] existing practices for the accreditation of representatives of indigenous peoples at the United Nations and the objectives of the Declaration;

12. *Encourages* Member States to respond fully and promptly to the questionnaire on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with Member States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a comprehensive last report on the achievement of the goal and objectives of the Second Decade, and its impact on the Millennium Development Goals, to be submitted no later than May 2014, which shall serve as an input to the preparatory process for the World Conference and to the discussion on the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015;

14. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Rights of indigenous peoples".

## RESOLUTION 67/154

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/455, para. 22),[229] by a recorded vote of 129 to 3, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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[228] See A/67/553, appendix.

[229] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Seychelles, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

## 67/154. Glorification of Nazism: inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[230] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[231] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[232] and other relevant human rights instruments,

*Recalling* the provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/16 of 16 April 2004[233] and 2005/5 of 14 April 2005[234] and relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 7/34 of 28 March 2008,[235] 18/15 of 29 September 2011[236] and 21/33 of 28 September 2012,[237] as well as General Assembly resolutions 60/143 of 16 December 2005, 61/147 of 19 December 2006, 62/142 of 18 December 2007, 63/162 of 18 December 2008, 64/147 of 18 December 2009, 65/199 of 21 December 2010 and 66/143 of 19 December 2011 on this issue and resolutions 61/149 of 19 December 2006, 62/220 of 22 December 2007, 63/242 of 24 December 2008, 64/148 of 18 December 2009, 65/240 of 24 December 2010 and 66/144 of 19 December 2011, entitled "Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action",

*Recalling also* the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal and the Judgement of the Tribunal, which recognized as criminal, inter alia, the SS organization and all its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, through its officially accepted members implicated in or with knowledge of the commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity connected with the Second World War, as well as other relevant provisions of the Charter and the Judgement,

*Recalling further* the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[238] in particular paragraph 2 of the Declaration and paragraph 86 of the Programme of Action, as well as the relevant provisions of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, of 24 April 2009,[239] in particular paragraphs 11 and 54,

*Alarmed*, in this regard, at the spread in many parts of the world of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, as well as similar extremist ideological movements,

*Deeply concerned* by all recent manifestations of violence and terrorism incited by violent nationalism, racism, xenophobia and related intolerance,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration[238] and of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,[239] in which States condemned the persistence and resurgence of neo-Nazism, neo-Fascism and violent nationalist ideologies based on racial and national prejudice and stated that those phenomena could never be justified in any instance or in any circumstances;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, prepared in accordance with the request contained in General Assembly resolution 66/143;[240]

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[230] Resolution 217 A (III).

[231] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[232] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[233] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[234] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[235] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[236] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[237] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[238] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[239] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

[240] A/67/328.

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for her commitment to maintaining the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as one of the priority activities of her Office;

4. *Expresses deep concern* about the glorification of the Nazi movement and former members of the Waffen SS organization, including by erecting monuments and memorials and holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past, the Nazi movement and neo-Nazism, as well as by declaring or attempting to declare such members and those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement participants in national liberation movements;

5. *Expresses concern* at recurring attempts to desecrate or demolish monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during the Second World War, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons, and in this regard urges States to fully comply with their relevant obligations, inter alia, under article 34 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949;[241]

6. *Notes with concern* the increase in the number of racist incidents worldwide, including the rise of skinhead groups, which have been responsible for many of these incidents, as well as the resurgence of racist and xenophobic violence targeting members of national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities;

7. *Reaffirms* that such acts may be qualified to fall within the scope of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[232] that they may not be justified as exercises of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association as well as the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, and that they may fall within the scope of article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[231] and may legitimately be restricted as set out in articles 19, 21 and 22 of the Covenant;

8. *Expresses deep concern* at attempts at commercial advertising aimed at exploiting the sufferings of the victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Second World War by the Nazi regime;

9. *Stresses* that the practices described above do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of crimes against humanity committed in the Second World War, in particular those committed by the SS organization and by those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement, and negatively influence children and young people, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter and is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Organization;

10. *Also stresses* that such practices fuel contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the spread and multiplication of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and in this regard calls for increased vigilance;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to take the measures necessary to put an end to the practices described above, and calls upon States to take more effective measures in accordance with international human rights law to combat those phenomena and the extremist movements, which pose a real threat to democratic values;

12. *Encourages* States to adopt further measures to provide training to the police and other law enforcement bodies on the ideologies of extremist political parties, movements and groups whose advocacy constitutes incitement to racist and xenophobic violence and to strengthen their capacity to address racist and xenophobic crimes and to bring to justice those responsible for such crimes;

13. *Notes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur regarding the responsibility of political leaders and parties in relation to messages that incite racial discrimination or xenophobia;

14. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur to introduce into national criminal law a provision according to which committing an offence with racist or xenophobic motivations or aims constitutes an aggravating circumstance allowing for enhanced penalties, and encourages those States whose legislation does not contain such provisions to consider that recommendation;

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[241] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

15. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the particular importance of all forms of education, including human rights education, as a complement to legislative measures, as outlined by the Special Rapporteur;

16. *Emphasizes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur presented at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, in which he emphasized the importance of history classes in teaching the dramatic events and human suffering which arose out of the adoption of ideologies such as Nazism and Fascism;

17. *Stresses* the importance of other positive measures and initiatives aimed at bringing communities together and providing them with space for genuine dialogue, such as round tables, working groups and seminars, including training seminars for State agents and media professionals, as well as awareness-raising activities, especially those initiated by civil society representatives which require continued State support;

18. *Calls upon* States to continue to invest in education, inter alia, in order to transform attitudes and correct ideas of racial hierarchies and superiority promoted by extremist political parties, movements and groups and counter their negative influence;

19. *Underlines* the potentially positive role that relevant United Nations entities and programmes, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, can play in the aforementioned areas;

20. *Reaffirms* article 4 of the Convention, according to which States parties to that instrument condemn all propaganda and all organizations that are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin, or that attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to that end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[230] and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of the Convention, inter alia:

(*a*) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, and incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(*b*) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and organized and all other propaganda activities, that promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(*c*) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination;

21. *Also reaffirms* that, as underlined in paragraph 13 of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence should be prohibited by law, that all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, or incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts, shall be declared offences punishable by law, in accordance with the international obligations of States, and that these prohibitions are consistent with freedom of opinion and expression;

22. *Recognizes* the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, including through the Internet, can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

23. *Expresses concern* about the use of the Internet to propagate racism, racial hatred, xenophobia, racial discrimination and related intolerance, and in this regard calls upon States parties to the Covenant to implement fully articles 19 and 20 thereof, which guarantee the right to freedom of expression and outline grounds on which the exercise of this right can be legitimately restricted;

24. *Recognizes* the need to promote the use of new information and communications technologies, including the Internet, to contribute to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

25. *Encourages* those States that have made reservations to article 4 of the Convention to give serious consideration to withdrawing such reservations as a matter of priority, as stressed by the Special Rapporteur;

26. *Notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation at the regional and international levels with the aim of countering all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular regarding issues raised in the present resolution;

27. *Stresses* the importance of cooperating closely with civil society and international and regional human rights mechanisms in order to counter effectively all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other similar extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

28. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to ensure that their legislation incorporates the provisions of the Convention, including those of article 4;

29. *Encourages* States to adopt the legislation necessary to combat racism while ensuring that the definition of racial discrimination set out therein complies with article 1 of the Convention;

30. *Recalls* that any legislative or constitutional measures adopted with a view to countering extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and similar extremist ideological movements should be in conformity with the relevant international human rights norms;

31. *Also recalls* the request of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2005/5,[234] that the Special Rapporteur continue to reflect on this issue, make relevant recommendations in his future reports and seek and take into account in this regard the views of Governments and non-governmental organizations;

32. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to prepare, for submission to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-third session, reports on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular regarding paragraphs 4, 5, 7 to 9, 16 and 17 above, based on the views collected in accordance with the request of the Commission, as recalled in paragraph 31 above;

33. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that have provided information to the Special Rapporteur in the course of the preparation of his report to the General Assembly, and notes the increase in such contributions received from States;

34. *Stresses* that such information is important for the sharing of experiences and best practices in the fight against extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

35. *Encourages* Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the exercise of the tasks outlined in paragraph 31 above;

36. *Encourages* Governments, non-governmental organizations and relevant actors to disseminate, as widely as possible, information regarding the contents of and the principles outlined in the present resolution, including through the media, but not limited to it;

37. *Decides* to remain seized of the issue.

## RESOLUTION 67/155

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/455, para. 22),[242] by a recorded vote of 133 to 7, with 48 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic

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[242] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and the Russian Federation.

Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

## 67/155. Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 52/111 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and its resolutions 56/266 of 27 March 2002, 57/195 of 18 December 2002, 58/160 of 22 December 2003, 59/177 of 20 December 2004 and 60/144 of 16 December 2005, which guided the comprehensive follow-up to and effective implementation of the World Conference, and in this regard underlining the importance of their full and effective implementation,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 64/148 of 18 December 2009 and 65/240 of 24 December 2010, in which it, inter alia, called for the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance,[243] which represented an important opportunity for the international community to reaffirm its commitment to the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including by mobilizing political will at the national, regional and international levels, with a view to achieving concrete results,

*Recalling further* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted on 22 September 2011,[244] which reaffirmed the political commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,[245] and their follow-up processes at the national, regional and international levels,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/144 of 19 December 2011, in which it encouraged the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent to develop a programme of action, including a theme, for adoption by the Human Rights Council, with a view to proclaiming the decade starting in 2013 the Decade for People of African Descent,

*Taking note* of Human Rights Council decision 3/103 of 8 December 2006,[246] by which, heeding the decision and instruction of the World Conference, the Council established the Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Council on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards,

*Underlining* the importance of Human Rights Council resolution 6/22 of 28 September 2007,[247] in which the Council deplored the lack of political will to translate the Durban commitments into concrete action and tangible results,

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[243] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[244] Resolution 66/3.

[245] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

[246] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. II, sect. B.

[247] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. I, sect. A.

*Bearing in mind* the responsibility and commitments of the Human Rights Council emanating from the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,

*Reiterating* that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

*Convinced* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance manifest themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and may be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and the limitation or denial of their human rights, and recognizing the need to integrate a gender perspective into relevant policies, strategies and programmes of action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to address multiple forms of discrimination,

*Underlining* the primacy of political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels needed to address all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Stressing* the importance of a consistent global effort to inform the public about the contribution that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action has made in the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Emphasizing*, while acknowledging the primary responsibility of States parties to implement their obligations under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[248] that international cooperation and technical assistance play an important role in assisting countries in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention,

*Alarmed* at the increase in racist violence and xenophobic ideas in many parts of the world, in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large as a result, inter alia, of the resurgent activities of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters and the persistent use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

*Underlining* the importance of urgently eliminating continuing and violent trends involving racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy, tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

*Recognizing* that individuals belonging to vulnerable groups, such as migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, continue to be the main victims of violence and attacks perpetrated or incited by extremist political parties, movements and groups that have a xenophobic and racist agenda,

*Acknowledging* the central role of resource mobilization, effective global partnership and international cooperation in the context of paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action for the successful realization of the primary objectives and commitments undertaken at the World Conference,

*Expressing grave concern* that the principal objective of combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance has not been attained, in particular owing to the lack of progress made in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, in particular key paragraphs 157 to 159 thereof, and that countless human beings continue to be victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Recognizing* that poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion and economic disparities are closely associated with racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the persistence of racist attitudes and practices, which in turn generate more poverty,

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[248] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

*Expressing concern* that the current financial and economic crisis and its consequences with respect to poverty and unemployment may have further contributed to the rise of extremist political parties, movements and groups and exacerbated identity-related issues and that, in this period of economic crisis, non-citizens, members of minorities, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are still the main scapegoats of extremist political parties that have a xenophobic and racist agenda and that sometimes incite racial discrimination and violence against them,

*Welcoming* the continued commitment of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to profiling and increasing the visibility of the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and recognizing the need for the High Commissioner to make this a cross-cutting issue in the activities and programmes of her Office,

*Expressing concern* at manifestations of intolerance based on religion or belief that can generate hatred and violence among individuals composing different nations, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of respect for religious and cultural diversity, as well as interfaith and intercultural dialogue, which contribute to promoting a culture of tolerance and respect among individuals, societies and nations,

*Noting* the work done and the progress made during the ninth and tenth sessions of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, held from 17 to 28 October 2011[249] and from 8 to 19 October 2012, and the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards, held from 10 to 20 April 2012,[250]

*Taking note* of the declaration of the Global African Diaspora Summit, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 25 May 2012,

*Taking note also* of general recommendation No. 34 addressing racial discrimination against people of African descent, adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination at its seventy-ninth session, held from 8 August to 2 September 2011,[251]

*Recognizing* the potential of sport as a universal language contributing to the education of people on the values of diversity, tolerance and fairness and as a means to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Deeply concerned* that, despite the immense potential of sport for promoting tolerance, racism in sport is still a serious problem,

*Welcoming* the hosting of the 2010 and 2014 International Federation of Association Football World Cups in South Africa and Brazil, respectively, and stressing the importance of making continuing use of those events to promote understanding, tolerance and peace and to promote and strengthen efforts in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

## I

## General principles

1. *Recognizes and affirms* that a global fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and all their abhorrent and evolving forms and manifestations is a matter of priority for the international community;

2. *Acknowledges* that no derogation from the prohibition of racial discrimination, genocide, the crime of apartheid or slavery is permitted, as defined in the obligations under the relevant human rights instruments;

3. *Expresses its profound concern about and its unequivocal condemnation* of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including related acts of racially motivated violence, xenophobia and intolerance, as well as propaganda activities and organizations that attempt to justify or promote racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in any form;

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[249] See A/HRC/19/77.

[250] See A/HRC/21/59.

[251] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/66/18), annex IX.

4. *Re-emphasizes* that international cooperation is a key principle in achieving the goal of the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive follow-up to and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action[243] in this regard;

5. *Emphasizes* that the basic responsibility for effectively combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance lies with States, and to that end stresses that States have the primary responsibility to ensure the full and effective implementation of all commitments and recommendations in this regard contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action as well as in the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,[245] and in this regard welcomes the steps taken by numerous Governments;

6. *Expresses deep concern* at inadequate responses to emerging and resurgent forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and urges States to adopt measures to address those scourges vigorously with a view to preventing their practice and protecting victims;

7. *Underlines* the imperative need to also address all the contemporary forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, which include incitement to such hatred, racial profiling and the propagation of racist and xenophobic acts through cyberspace, with a view to maximizing protection for victims, providing legal remedies and combating impunity;

8. *Stresses* that States and international organizations have a responsibility to ensure that measures taken in the struggle against terrorism do not discriminate in purpose or effect on grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, and urges all States to rescind or refrain from all forms of racial profiling;

9. *Recognizes* that States should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislative, judicial, regulatory and administrative measures to prevent and protect against acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations;

10. *Also recognizes* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance occur on the grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin and that victims can suffer multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination based on other related grounds, such as sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, social origin, property and birth or other status;

11. *Reaffirms* that any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law, and also reaffirms that the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, or incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts, shall be declared offences punishable by law, in accordance with the international obligations of States, and that those prohibitions are consistent with freedom of opinion and expression;

12. *Underlines* the imperative need to address all the contemporary forms and manifestations of racial discrimination, taking into account the object and purpose of the provisions of article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[252] article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[248] and general recommendation XV (42) of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;[253]

13. *Emphasizes* that it is the responsibility of States to adopt effective measures to combat criminal acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including measures to ensure that such motivations are considered an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing, to prevent those crimes from going unpunished and to ensure the rule of law;

14. *Urges* all States to review and, where necessary, revise their immigration laws, policies and practices so that they are free of racial discrimination and compatible with their obligations under international human rights instruments;

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[252] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[253] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/48/18), chap. VIII, sect. B.

15. *Calls upon* all States, in accordance with the commitments undertaken in paragraph 147 of the Durban Programme of Action, to take all measures necessary to combat incitement to violence motivated by racial hatred, including through the misuse of print, audiovisual and electronic media and new communications technologies, and, in collaboration with service providers, to promote the use of such technologies, including the Internet, to contribute to the fight against racism, in conformity with international standards of freedom of expression and taking all measures necessary to guarantee that right;

16. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for all cultures, civilizations, religions, peoples and countries, as well as information on the follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

17. *Stresses* the responsibility of States to mainstream a gender perspective into the design and development of prevention, education and protection measures aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at all levels, to ensure that they effectively target the distinct situations of women and men;

## II

## International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

18. *Reaffirms* that universal adherence to and full implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination are of paramount importance for the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and for the promotion of equality and non-discrimination in the world;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the thematic discussion on racist hate speech held during the eighty-first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

20. *Expresses grave concern* that universal ratification of the Convention has not yet been reached, despite commitments under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and calls upon those States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention as a matter of urgency;

21. *Urges*, in the above context, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to maintain on its website and to issue regular updates on a list of countries that have not yet ratified the Convention and to encourage those countries to ratify it at the earliest possible time;

22. *Expresses concern* at the serious delays in the submission of overdue reports to the Committee, which impede the effectiveness of the Committee, makes a strong appeal to all States parties to the Convention to comply with their treaty obligations, and reaffirms the importance of the provision of technical assistance to requesting countries in the preparation of their reports to the Committee;

23. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to ratify the amendment to article 8 of the Convention on the financing of the Committee, and calls for adequate additional resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to enable the Committee to discharge its mandate fully;

24. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to intensify their efforts to implement the obligations that they have accepted under article 4 of the Convention, with due regard to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[254] and article 5 of the Convention;

25. *Recalls* that the Committee holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration and in article 5 of the Convention;

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[254] Resolution 217 A (III).

26. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the measures recommended to strengthen the implementation of the Convention as well as the functioning of the Committee;

27. *Encourages* all Member States to consider verifying whether the absence of complaints of racial discrimination is not the result of the victims' lack of awareness of their rights, fear of reprisals, limited access to remedies or lack of confidence in the law enforcement authorities, or the lack of attention or sensitivity on the part of the law enforcement authorities to cases of racial discrimination, and to pay particular attention to the challenges faced by victims in accessing justice;

28. *Calls upon* Member States to do their utmost to ensure that their responses to the current financial and economic crisis do not lead to increased poverty and underdevelopment and, potentially, a rise in racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against foreigners, immigrants and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities all over the world;

29. *Reaffirms* that deprivation of citizenship on the basis of race or descent is a breach of State parties' obligations to ensure non-discriminatory enjoyment of the right to nationality;

## III

## Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and follow-up to his visits

30. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[255] and encourages relevant stakeholders to consider implementing the recommendations contained therein;

31. *Welcomes* Human Rights Council resolution 16/33 of 25 March 2011,[256] by which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for a period of three years;

32. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States, intergovernmental organizations, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, and calls upon States to consider responding favourably to his requests for visits so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate fully and effectively;

33. *Reaffirms* that any form of impunity condoned by public authorities for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy and tends to encourage the recurrence of such acts;

34. *Emphasizes* the obligations of States under international law to exercise due diligence to prevent crimes against migrants perpetrated with racist or xenophobic motivations, to investigate such crimes and to punish the perpetrators and that not doing so violates, and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of, the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims, and urges States to reinforce measures in this regard;

35. *Recognizes with deep concern* the increase in anti-Semitism, Christianophobia and Islamophobia in various parts of the world, as well as the emergence of racial and violent movements based on racism and discriminatory ideas directed against Arab, Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities, as well as all religious communities, communities of people of African descent, communities of people of Asian descent, communities of indigenous people and other communities;

36. *Calls upon* States parties to fully implement legislation and other measures already in place to ensure the elimination of all forms of racism, notably against people of African descent;

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[255] See A/67/328.

[256] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

37. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide States, at their request, with advisory services and technical assistance to enable them to implement fully the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the human and financial assistance necessary to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

39. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur, within his mandate, to continue giving particular attention to the negative impact of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on the full enjoyment of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights;

40. *Invites* Member States to demonstrate greater commitment to fighting racism in sport by conducting educational and awareness-raising activities and by strongly condemning the perpetrators of racist incidents, in cooperation with national and international sports organizations;

41. *Strongly condemns* all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, as well as violations of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

42. *Recommends* that States engage in broad efforts to eliminate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to promote respect for cultural, ethnic and religious diversity, and in that regard emphasizes the crucial role of education, including human rights education, training and learning, and a variety of awareness-raising measures that contribute to the creation of tolerant societies in which mutual understanding may be ensured;

43. *Also recommends* that all States give due attention to and closely monitor the way in which the concept of national, cultural and religious identity is debated within their societies, with a view to preventing it from being used as a tool to create artificial differences among some groups of the population;

44. *Expresses concern* at recent deeply marked tendencies within numerous societies to characterize migration as a problem and a threat to social cohesion, and in this context notes the numerous human rights challenges in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

45. *Recommends* that States conduct human rights training, including on the challenges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance faced by migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, for law enforcement officials, especially immigration officials and border police, so that they may act in conformity with international human rights law;

46. *Also recommends* that States consider collecting ethnically disaggregated data with a view to setting up concrete targets and designing appropriate and effective anti-discrimination legislation, policies and programmes aimed at promoting equality, and preventing and eliminating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and in this regard, any such information should, as appropriate, be collected with the explicit consent of individuals, based on their self-determination and in accordance with provisions of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as data protection regulations and privacy guarantees, and this information must not be misused;

47. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to consider examining national models of mechanisms that measure racial equality and their added value in the eradication of racial discrimination and to report on such challenges, successes and best practices in his next report;

48. *Encourages* those States that have not adopted legislation to combat and prevent racial, ethnic and xenophobic hatred to consider doing so, in conformity with international standards on freedom of expression and taking all measures necessary to guarantee that right, taking into account that combating the use of the Internet to propagate racist, ethnic hatred and xenophobic content and incitement to violence requires a multi-stakeholder approach;

49. *Encourages* States to promote the opportunities provided by the Internet and social media to counter the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred and to promote equality, non-discrimination and respect for diversity;

50. *Strongly condemns* any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means, and in this regard emphasizes that respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of religion or belief, and for cultural and religious diversity is an essential element for creating an environment free from racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contributes to the global efforts to combat all forms of discrimination;

## IV

## Outcomes of the 2001 World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, the 2009 Durban Review Conference and the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (2011)

51. *Reaffirms* that the General Assembly is the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters relating to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, and that, together with the Human Rights Council, it shall constitute an intergovernmental process for the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

52. *Welcomes* the adoption of the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, whose aim is to mobilize political will at the national, regional and international levels and to implement the Programme of Action;

53. *Reaffirms* the political commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, and their follow-up processes, at the national, regional and international levels, in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

54. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet elaborated their national action plans on combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to comply with their commitments undertaken at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of 2001;

55. *Calls upon* all States to formulate and implement without delay, at the national, regional and international levels, policies and plans of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their gender-based manifestations;

56. *Urges* States to support the activities of existing regional bodies or centres that combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in their respective regions, and recommends the establishment of such bodies in all regions where they do not exist;

57. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the instruments enumerated in paragraph 78 of the Durban Programme of Action;

58. *Emphasizes* the fundamental and complementary role of national human rights institutions, regional bodies or centres and civil society, working jointly with States, towards the elimination of all forms of racism and, in particular, towards the achievement of the objectives of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in this regard;

59. *Recognizes* the fundamental role of civil society in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular in helping States to develop regulations and strategies, in taking measures and action against such forms of discrimination and through follow-up implementation;

60. *Reaffirms its commitment* to eliminating all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of related intolerance against indigenous peoples, and in this regard notes the attention paid to the objectives

of combating prejudice, eliminating discrimination and promoting tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[257]

61. *Acknowledges* that the World Conference of 2001, which was the third world conference against racism, was significantly different from the previous two conferences, as evidenced by the inclusion in its title of two important components relating to contemporary forms of racism, namely, xenophobia and related intolerance;

62. *Also acknowledges* that the outcomes of the World Conference and the Durban Review Conference, in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, have the same status as the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields;

63. *Notes* efforts to increase public support for the role of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the involvement of relevant stakeholders in its realization;

64. *Welcomes* the compilation elaborated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in collaboration with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to compile and disseminate, from within existing resources, in a single combined publication, the political declaration on the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, with a view to increasing global support for and awareness of these documents, as well as to establish a programme of outreach through public information campaigns at all levels, and encourages them to intensify efforts to enhance global support for and awareness of these documents;

65. *Calls upon* Member States and the United Nations system to intensify efforts to widely distribute copies of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and encourages efforts to ensure its translation and wide dissemination;

66. *Endorses* the laudable initiative led by the States members of the Caribbean Community and other Member States for the establishment of a permanent memorial at the United Nations to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade as a contribution towards the fulfilment of paragraph 101 of the Durban Declaration, expresses its appreciation for contributions made to the voluntary fund established in this regard, and urges other countries to contribute to the fund;

67. *Notes* the work of the mechanisms mandated to follow up on the World Conference and the Durban Review Conference, and underlines the importance of improving their effectiveness;

68. *Calls upon* the Human Rights Council to ensure that, upon the consideration and adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the recommendations are brought to the attention of the relevant United Nations agencies for adoption and implementation, within their respective mandates;

69. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue mainstreaming the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference throughout the United Nations system and, in accordance with paragraphs 136 and 137 of the outcome document, which call for the establishment of an inter-agency task force, to update the Human Rights Council in this regard;

70. *Acknowledges* the central role of resource mobilization, effective global partnership and international cooperation in the context of paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action for the successful realization of commitments undertaken at the World Conference, and notes the mandate of the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, especially in mobilizing the political will necessary for the successful implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

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[257] Resolution 61/295, annex.

71. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandates of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards;

72. *Expresses concern* at the increasing incidence of racism in various sporting events, while noting with appreciation the efforts made by some governing bodies of the various sporting codes to combat racism, and in this regard invites all international sporting bodies to promote, through their national, regional and international federations, a world of sport free from racism and racial discrimination;

73. *Expresses serious concern* at past and recent incidents of racism in sport and at sporting events, and in this context welcomes efforts of sports governing bodies to combat racism, including by pursuing anti-racism initiatives and by developing and applying disciplinary codes that impose sanctions for racist acts;

74. *Expresses its appreciation*, in this context, to the International Federation of Association Football for the initiative to introduce a visible theme on non-racism in football, and invites the Federation to continue this initiative at the 2014 World Cup soccer tournament to be held in Brazil;

75. *Calls upon* States to take advantage of mass sporting events as valuable outreach platforms for mobilizing people and conveying crucial messages about equality and non-discrimination;

76. *Urges* States, in cooperation with intergovernmental organizations, the International Olympic Committee and international and regional sports federations, to intensify the fight against racism in sport by, among other things, educating the youth of the world through sport practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires human understanding, tolerance, fair play and solidarity;

77. *Acknowledges* the guidance and leadership role of the Human Rights Council, encourages it to continue overseeing the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Council with all the support necessary for it to achieve its objectives in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

## V

## Follow-up activities

78. *Reiterates its recommendation* that future meetings of the Human Rights Council and its relevant mechanisms focusing on the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action be scheduled in a manner that allows broad participation and avoids overlap with the meetings devoted to the consideration of this item in the General Assembly;

79. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, relevant United Nations programmes and organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to launch an informal consultative preparatory process for the proclamation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, with the theme "People of African descent: recognition, justice and development", with a view to proclaiming the International Decade in 2013, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly before the end of its sixty-seventh session on the practical steps to be taken to make the International Decade effective;

80. *Commends* the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent for its work during its tenth session,[258] and invites its Chair to participate in the proclamation of the International Decade and to report to and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly in that respect, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", at its sixty-eighth session;

81. *Decides* to remain seized of this important matter at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance".

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[258] See A/HRC/18/45.

## RESOLUTION 67/156

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/455, para. 22)[259]

### 67/156. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[260] most recently resolution 65/200 of 21 December 2010,

*Bearing in mind* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[261] in particular section II.B of the Declaration, relating to equality, dignity and tolerance,

*Reiterating* the need to intensify the struggle to eliminate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance throughout the world,

*Reiterating also* the importance of the Convention, which is one of the most widely accepted human rights instruments adopted under the auspices of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* that universal adherence to and full implementation of the Convention are of paramount importance for promoting equality and non-discrimination in the world, as stated in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[262]

*Mindful* of the importance of the contributions of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to the effective implementation of the Convention and to the efforts of the United Nations to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Emphasizing* the obligation of all States parties to the Convention to take legislative, judicial and other measures to secure full implementation of the provisions of the Convention,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992, in which it welcomed the decision, taken on 15 January 1992 by the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, to amend paragraph 6 of article 8 of the Convention and to add a new paragraph, as paragraph 7 of article 8, with a view to providing for the financing of the Committee from the regular budget of the United Nations,[263] and reiterating its deep concern that the amendment to the Convention has not yet entered into force,

*Stressing* the importance of enabling the Committee to function smoothly and to have all necessary facilities for the effective performance of its functions under the Convention,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on measures to improve further the effectiveness, harmonization and reform of the treaty body system[264] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the strengthening of the human rights treaty bodies,[265]

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[259] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[260] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[261] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[262] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[263] See CERD/SP/45, annex.

[264] A/66/344.

[265] See A/66/860.

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 66/254 of 23 February 2012 and 66/295 of 17 September 2012 on the intergovernmental process of the Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system,

## I

## Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth[266] and its eightieth[267] sessions;

2. *Commends* the Committee for its contributions to the effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[260] especially through the examination of reports under article 9 of the Convention, action on communications under article 14 of the Convention and thematic discussions, which contribute to the prevention and elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to fulfil their obligation under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention to submit their periodic reports on measures taken to implement the Convention in due time;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that a great number of reports, in particular initial reports, are overdue and continue to be overdue, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention;

5. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention whose reports are seriously overdue to avail themselves of the advisory services and technical assistance that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights can provide, upon their request, for the preparation of the reports;

6. *Reiterates* that States parties, in line with article 8 of the Convention, should take into account, in their nomination of members to the Committee, that the Committee shall be composed of persons of high moral standing and acknowledged impartiality, who shall serve in their personal capacity, and that consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of the different forms of civilization as well as of the principal legal systems, and encourages States parties to give due regard to the nomination of persons having legal experience, as well as recognized competence in the field of human rights, and to the equal representation of women and men;

7. *Encourages* the Committee to continue to cooperate and exchange information with United Nations bodies and mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and other relevant mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, as well as with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to continue to include a gender perspective in their reports to the Committee, and invites the Committee to take into account a gender perspective in the implementation of its mandate;

9. *Also encourages* States parties to the Convention to include information on measures to prevent and combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in their national reports to the universal periodic review mechanism of the Human Rights Council, and strongly encourages States parties to recognize those recommendations of the universal periodic review mechanism that originate from treaty body recommendations and treat them appropriately;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the engagement of the Committee in the follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;[262]

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made so far by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods, including with a view to further harmonizing the working methods of the treaty bodies, and encourages the Committee to continue its activities in this regard;

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[266] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/66/18).

[267] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/67/18).

12. *Welcomes*, in this regard, measures taken by the Committee to follow up on its concluding observations and recommendations, such as the appointment of a follow-up coordinator[268] and the adoption of the guidelines on follow-up;[269]

13. *Encourages* the continued participation of members of the Committee in the annual inter-committee meetings and meetings of chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies, especially with a view to a more coordinated approach to the activities of the treaty body system and standardized reporting as well as to solving the problem of the backlog of reports of States parties in an effective manner, including by identifying efficiencies and maximizing the use of their resources as well as learning and sharing best practices and experiences in this regard;

14. *Recalls* that the General Assembly decided to authorize the Committee to meet for an additional week per session, as a temporary measure, from August 2009 to 2012;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Committee to erase the backlog of reports pending consideration, and notes the role that improvements in efficient working methods and temporary additional meeting time have played in that regard;

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on measures to improve further the effectiveness, harmonization and reform of the treaty body system, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 65/200 and 65/204,[264] and the report of the open-ended intergovernmental process to conduct open, transparent and inclusive negotiations on how to strengthen and enhance the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system;[270]

## II

## Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

17. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;[271]

18. *Expresses its profound concern* at the fact that a number of States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination have still not fulfilled their financial obligations, as shown in the report of the Secretary-General, and strongly appeals to all States parties that are in arrears to fulfil their outstanding financial obligations under article 8, paragraph 6, of the Convention;

19. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to accelerate their national ratification procedures with regard to the amendment to the Convention concerning the financing of the Committee and to notify the Secretary-General expeditiously in writing of their agreement to the amendment, as decided upon at the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on 15 January 1992,[263] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111 and further reiterated at the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties on 16 January 1996;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure adequate financial arrangements and to provide the necessary support, including an adequate level of Secretariat assistance, in order to ensure the functioning of the Committee and to enable it to cope with its increasing amount of work;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite those States parties to the Convention that are in arrears to pay the amounts in arrears, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

## III

## Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

22. *Reiterates its call* for the universal ratification and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by all States parties to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination;

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[268] Ibid., *Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/60/18), annex IV.

[269] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/61/18), annex VI.

[270] A/66/902, annex.

[271] A/67/322.

23. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention;[272]

24. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the number of States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention, which now stands at 175;

25. *Urges* States parties to comply fully with their obligations under the Convention and to take into consideration the concluding observations and general recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

26. *Reaffirms its conviction* that ratification of or accession to the Convention on a universal basis and the implementation of its provisions are necessary for the effectiveness of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and for the implementation of the commitments undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and expresses its disappointment that universal ratification of the Convention was not achieved by the targeted date of 2005;

27. *Urges* States to limit the extent of any reservation they lodge to the Convention and to formulate any reservation as precisely and narrowly as possible in order to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, to review their reservations on a regular basis with a view to withdrawing them, and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention;

28. *Notes* that the number of States parties to the Convention that have made the declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention now stands at 54, and requests States parties that have not yet done so to consider making that declaration;

29. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance";

30. *Decides* to consider, at its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", the reports of the Committee on its eighty-first and eighty-second and its eighty-third and eighty-fourth sessions, the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee and the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention.

## RESOLUTION 67/157

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/456 and Corr.1, para. 19)[273]

### 67/157. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[274] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

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[272] A/67/321.

[273] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

*Welcoming* the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

*Deeply concerned* at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

*Expressing grave concern* that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its sixty-first[275] and previous sessions,

*Reaffirming* its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 66/145 of 19 December 2011,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, containing the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which, inter alia, upheld the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[276]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and with honour;

5. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to give special attention to violations of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the question to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

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[274] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[275] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[276] A/67/276.

## RESOLUTION 67/158

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/456 and Corr.1, para. 19),[277] by a recorded vote of 179 to 7, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Cameroon, Honduras, Tonga

### 67/158. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

*The General Assembly,*

*Aware* that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

*Recalling*, in this regard, its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, entitled "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations",

*Bearing in mind* the International Covenants on Human Rights,[278] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[279] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[280] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[281]

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[277] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

[278] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[279] Resolution 217 A (III).

[280] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[281] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

*Recalling* the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[282]

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[283]

*Recalling further* the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[284] and noting in particular the reply of the Court, including on the right of peoples to self-determination, which is a right *erga omnes*,[285]

*Recalling* the conclusion of the Court, in its advisory opinion of 9 July 2004, that the construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,[286]

*Expressing* the urgent need for the resumption and accelerated advancement of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[287] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[288] and for the speedy achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

*Stressing* the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and recalling in this regard its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/146 of 19 December 2011,

*Affirming* the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

## RESOLUTION 67/159

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/456 and Corr.1, para. 19),[289] by a recorded vote of 128 to 54, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation,

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[282] Resolution 50/6.

[283] Resolution 55/2.

[284] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[285] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 88.

[286] Ibid., para. 122.

[287] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[288] S/2003/529, annex.

[289] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Colombia, Fiji, Gabon, Mexico, South Sudan, Switzerland, Tonga

## 67/159. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all of its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 66/147 of 19 December 2011, and Human Rights Council resolutions 15/12 of 30 September 2010,[290] 15/26 of 1 October 2010,[291] 18/4 of 29 September 2011[292] and 21/8 of 27 September 2012,[293] as well as all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in this regard,

*Recalling also* all of its relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit or use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity Convention for the elimination of mercenarism in Africa,[294] as well as by the African Union,

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

*Reaffirming also* that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

*Reaffirming further* the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[295]

*Welcoming* the establishment of the open-ended intergovernmental working group of the Human Rights Council with the mandate of considering the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework, including the option of elaborating a legally binding instrument on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies,

*Recalling* that regional consultations were held in all five regions from 2007 to 2011, in which participants noted that the enjoyment and exercise of human rights were increasingly impeded by the emergence of new challenges and trends relating to mercenaries or their activities and to the role played by private military and security companies registered, operating or recruiting personnel in each region, and expressing its appreciation to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for its support for the holding of the consultations,

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[290] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[291] Ibid., chap. I.

[292] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[293] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[294] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1490, No. 25573.

[295] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

*Alarmed and concerned* at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States,

*Deeply concerned* at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from criminal mercenary activities,

*Extremely alarmed and concerned* about recent mercenary activities in some developing countries in various parts of the world, including in areas of armed conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of the affected countries,

*Concerned* at the alleged involvement of mercenaries, as well as employees of some private military and security companies with mercenary-related activities, in serious human rights violations, including summary executions, enforced disappearances, rape, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, arbitrary arrests and detentions, arson, pillaging and looting,

*Convinced* that a comprehensive, legally binding international regulatory instrument is important for regulating private military and security companies and, in this regard, for taking measures to ensure their accountability for human rights violations and monitor their activities,

*Convinced also* that, notwithstanding the way in which they are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of all human rights by peoples,

1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the work and contributions of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, including its research activities, and takes note with appreciation of its latest report;[296]

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, inter alia, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges once again* all States to take the steps necessary and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training, protection or transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

5. *Requests* all States to exercise the utmost vigilance against any kind of recruitment, training, hiring or financing of mercenaries by private companies offering international military consultancy and security services, as well as to impose a specific ban on such companies intervening in armed conflicts or actions to destabilize constitutional regimes;

6. *Encourages* States that import the military assistance, consultancy and security services provided by private companies to establish regulatory national mechanisms for the registering and licensing of those companies in order to ensure that imported services provided by those private companies neither impede the enjoyment of human rights nor violate human rights in the recipient country;

7. *Emphasizes its utmost concern* about the impact of the activities of private military and security companies on the enjoyment of human rights, in particular when operating in armed conflicts, and notes that private military and security companies and their personnel are rarely held accountable for violations of human rights;

8. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider taking the action necessary to accede to or ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;[297]

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[296] A/67/340.

[297] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2163, No. 37789.

9. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that received a visit by the Working Group and the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

10. *Condemns* recent mercenary activities in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of those countries and the exercise of the right of their peoples to self-determination, and stresses the importance for the Working Group of looking into sources and root causes, as well as the political motivations of mercenaries and for mercenary-related activities;

11. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with national law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

12. *Condemns* any form of impunity granted to perpetrators of mercenary activities and to those responsible for the use, recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to bring them, without distinction, to justice;

13. *Calls upon* Member States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to cooperate with and assist the judicial prosecution of those accused of mercenary activities in transparent, open and fair trials;

14. *Welcomes* the holding of the second session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to consider the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies, and expresses satisfaction at the participation of experts, including the members of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries, as resource persons at the above-mentioned session;

15. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to continue the work already done by previous Special Rapporteurs on the use of mercenaries on the strengthening of the international legal framework for the prevention and sanction of the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries, taking into account the proposal for a new legal definition of a mercenary drafted by the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination in his report to the Commission on Human Rights at its sixtieth session;[298]

16. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by those activities;

17. *Recommends* that all Member States, including those confronted with the phenomenon of private military and security companies, as contracting States, States of operations, home States or States whose nationals are employed to work for a private military and security company, contribute to the work of the open-ended intergovernmental working group, taking into account the initial work done by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries;

18. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Working Group on the use of mercenaries in the fulfilment of its mandate;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Working Group with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Working Group and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities, in order to meet the demands of its current and future activities;

20. *Requests* the Working Group to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session its findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the enjoyment of all human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;

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[298] See E/CN.4/2004/15, para. 47.

21. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-eighth session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

## RESOLUTION 67/160

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.1, para. 21)[299]

### 67/160. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 66/229 of 24 December 2011, as well as relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights,

*Welcoming* the fact that, since the opening for signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[300] and the Optional Protocol thereto[301] on 30 March 2007, 154 States and 1 regional integration organization have signed and 126 States have ratified or acceded to and 1 regional integration organization has formally confirmed the Convention and 91 States have signed and 76 States have ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol,

*Noting* that, while the Convention has enjoyed a very high level of ratification in a short time, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities currently meets for only one one-week session and one two-week session per year, and noting that, in particular cases, members of the Committee may require reasonable accommodation, as defined in the Convention,

*Noting also* that document and translation costs for the reports of States parties constitute the largest part of the budget for the Committee,

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/254 of 23 February 2012 and 66/295 of 17 September 2012 on the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, and recognizing in this regard that a long-term solution to the problem of the increasing number of reports of States parties to the Convention can be found in this context,

1. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[300] and the Optional Protocol thereto[301] as a matter of priority;

2. *Welcomes* the holding of the fifth session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention from 12 to 14 September 2012;

3. *Also welcomes* the work of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and encourages sustained efforts by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods;

4. *Encourages* States parties to adhere to the page limit established by the Committee for reports of States parties, and notes that this would reduce the operating costs of the Committee;

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[299] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine and Uruguay.

[300] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[301] Ibid., vol. 2518, No. 44910.

5. *Authorizes* for the Committee, without prejudice to the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, two annual pre-sessional working group meetings of one week each, starting in 2014, with the participation of up to six members of the Committee, to be held after the two annual sessions of the Committee, in order to ensure the most efficient and effective use of its annual session time by allowing time for the consideration of additional reports;

6. *Also authorizes* for the Committee, without prejudice to the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, the addition of two weeks of meeting time per year to the existing regular sessions, starting in 2014;

7. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[302] and the activities undertaken in support of the Convention;

8. *Encourages* the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to continue its work to mainstream the Convention throughout the United Nations system through its Strategy and Plan of Action, approved in 2010, and calls upon the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue strengthening their cooperation in this regard;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to assist States to become parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto, including by providing assistance with a view to achieving universal adherence;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the progressive implementation of standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations system, taking into account relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular when undertaking renovations, including interim arrangements;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take further actions to promote the rights of persons with disabilities in the United Nations system in accordance with the Convention, including the retention and recruitment of persons with disabilities;

12. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to strengthen efforts undertaken to disseminate accessible information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto, including to children and young people to promote their understanding, and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under those instruments;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the status of the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto and on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/161

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.1, para. 21)[303]

### 67/161. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

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[302] A/67/281.

[303] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

*Recalling* that freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is a non-derogable right under international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, that must be respected and protected under all circumstances, including in times of international or internal armed conflict or disturbance or any other public emergency, that the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is affirmed in relevant international instruments and that legal and procedural safeguards against such acts must not be subject to measures that would circumvent this right,

*Recalling also* that the prohibition of torture is a peremptory norm of international law and that international, regional and national courts have recognized the prohibition of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as customary international law,

*Recalling further* the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[304] without prejudice to any international instrument or national legislation which contains or may contain provisions of wider application,

*Emphasizing* the importance of properly interpreting and implementing the obligations of States with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and of abiding strictly by the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention,

*Noting* that, under the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[305] torture and inhuman treatment are a grave breach and that, under the statute of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, the statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[306] acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and, when committed in a situation of armed conflict, constitute war crimes,

*Noting also* that 26 June 2012 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,

*Welcoming* the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[307] the implementation of which will make a significant contribution to the prevention and prohibition of torture, including by prohibiting secret places of detention and by ensuring legal and procedural safeguards for persons deprived of their liberty, and encouraging all States that have not done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

*Commending* the persistent efforts of civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and national preventive mechanisms, and the considerable network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, to prevent and combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

*Deeply concerned* about all acts which can amount to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment committed against persons exercising their rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression in all regions of the world,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including through intimidation, which are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever and can thus never be justified, and calls upon all States to implement fully the absolute and non-derogable prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

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[304] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[305] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[306] Ibid., vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[307] Resolution 61/177, annex.

2. *Emphasizes* that States must take persistent, determined and effective measures to prevent and combat all acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, stresses that all acts of torture must be made offences under national criminal law punishable by appropriate penalties that take into account their grave nature, and encourages States to prohibit under national law acts constituting cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of national preventive mechanisms to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, urges States to consider establishing, appointing, maintaining or enhancing independent and effective mechanisms with qualified expertise to undertake monitoring visits to places of detention, inter alia, with a view to preventing acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and calls upon States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[308] to fulfil their obligation to designate or establish national preventive mechanisms that are truly independent, properly resourced and effective;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of States ensuring proper follow-up to the recommendations and conclusions of the relevant treaty bodies and mechanisms, including the Committee against Torture, the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, national preventive mechanisms and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, while recognizing the important role of the universal periodic review, national human rights institutions and other relevant national or regional bodies in preventing torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

5. *Condemns* any action or attempt by States or public officials to legalize, authorize or acquiesce in torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under any circumstances, including on grounds of national security and counter-terrorism or through judicial decisions, and urges States to ensure accountability of those responsible for all such acts;

6. *Encourages* States to consider establishing or maintaining appropriate national processes to record allegations of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and ensure that such information is accessible in accordance with applicable law;

7. *Stresses* that an independent, competent national authority must promptly, effectively and impartially investigate all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as well as wherever there is reasonable ground to believe that such an act has been committed, and that those who encourage, instigate, order, tolerate, acquiesce in, consent to or perpetrate such acts must be held responsible, brought to justice and punished in a manner commensurate with the severity of the offence, including the officials in charge of any place of detention, or other place where persons are deprived of their liberty, where the prohibited act is found to have been committed;

8. *Recalls*, in this respect, the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Istanbul Principles)[309] as a valuable tool in efforts to prevent and combat torture and the updated set of principles for the protection and promotion of human rights through action to combat impunity;[310]

9. *Calls upon* all States to implement effective measures to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, particularly in places of detention and other places where persons are deprived of their liberty, including legal and procedural safeguards, as well as education and training of personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

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[308] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2375, No. 24841.

[309] Resolution 55/89, annex.

[310] See E/CN.4/2005/102/Add.1.

10. *Urges* States, as an important element in preventing and combating torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to ensure that no authority or official orders, applies, permits or tolerates any sanction or other prejudice against any person or organization for having been in contact with any national or international monitoring or preventive body active in the prevention and combating of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

11. *Calls upon* all States to adopt a victim-oriented approach[311] in the fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, paying special attention to the views and needs of victims in policy development and other activities relating to rehabilitation, prevention and accountability for torture;

12. *Also calls upon* all States to adopt a gender-sensitive approach in the fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, paying special attention to gender-based violence;

13. *Calls upon* States to ensure that the rights of persons with disabilities, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[312] are fully integrated into torture prevention and protection, and welcomes the efforts of the Special Rapporteur in this regard;

14. *Encourages* all States to ensure that persons convicted of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have no subsequent involvement in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any person under arrest, detention, imprisonment or other deprivation of liberty and that persons charged with torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have no involvement in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any person under arrest, detention, imprisonment or other deprivation of liberty while such charges are pending;

15. *Emphasizes* that acts of torture in armed conflict are serious violations of international humanitarian law and in this regard constitute war crimes, that acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and that the perpetrators of all acts of torture must be prosecuted and punished, and in this regard notes the efforts of the International Criminal Court to end impunity by seeking to ensure the accountability and punishment of perpetrators of such acts, in accordance with the Rome Statute,[306] bearing in mind its principle of complementarity, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Rome Statute;

16. *Strongly urges* States to ensure that no statement that is established to have been made as a result of torture is invoked as evidence in any proceedings, except against a person accused of torture as evidence that the statement was made, encourages States to extend that prohibition to statements made as a result of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and recognizes that adequate corroboration of statements, including confessions, used as evidence in any proceedings constitutes one safeguard for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

17. *Stresses* that States must not punish personnel for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

18. *Urges* States not to expel, return ("refouler"), extradite or in any other way transfer a person to another State where there are substantial grounds for believing that the person would be in danger of being subjected to torture, stresses the importance of effective legal and procedural safeguards in this regard, and recognizes that diplomatic assurances, where given, do not release States from their obligations under international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, in particular the principle of non-refoulement;

19. *Recalls* that, for the purpose of determining whether there are such grounds, the competent authorities shall take into account all relevant considerations, including, where applicable, the existence in the State concerned of a consistent pattern of gross, flagrant or mass violations of human rights;

20. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[304] to fulfil their obligation to submit for prosecution or extradite those alleged to have committed acts of torture, and encourages other States to do likewise, bearing in mind the need to fight impunity;

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[311] See A/HRC/16/52.

[312] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

21. *Stresses* that national legal systems must ensure that victims of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment obtain redress without suffering any retribution for bringing complaints or giving evidence, have access to justice, are awarded fair and adequate compensation and receive appropriate social, psychological, medical and other relevant specialized rehabilitation, and urges States to establish, maintain, facilitate or support rehabilitation centres or facilities where victims of torture can receive such treatment and where effective measures for ensuring the safety of their staff and patients are taken;

22. *Recalls* its resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988 on the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, and in this context stresses that ensuring that any individual arrested or detained is promptly brought before a judge or other independent judicial officer in person and permitting prompt and regular medical care and legal counsel as well as visits by family members and independent monitoring mechanisms are effective measures for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

23. *Reminds* all States that prolonged incommunicado detention or detention in secret places can facilitate the perpetration of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and can in itself constitute a form of such treatment, and urges all States to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person and to ensure that secret places of detention and interrogation are abolished;

24. *Emphasizes* that conditions of detention must respect the dignity and human rights of detainees, highlights the importance of reflecting on this in efforts to promote respect for and protection of the rights of detainees, and notes in this regard concerns about solitary confinement when it amounts to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

25. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to prevent and prohibit the production, trade, export, import and use of equipment that have no practical use other than for the purpose of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

26. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention and to give early consideration to signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol thereto as a matter of priority;

27. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to make the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 concerning inter-State and individual communications, to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20 and to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee as soon as possible;

28. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including, in view of the high number of reports not submitted in time, their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles and persons with disabilities when submitting reports to the Committee;

29. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee and of the Subcommittee and their reports, recommends that they continue to include information on the follow-up by States parties to their recommendations, and supports the Committee and the Subcommittee in their efforts to further improve the effectiveness of their working methods;

30. *Invites* the Chairs of the Committee and of the Subcommittee to present oral reports on the work of the committees and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights";

31. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with her mandate established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of States, advisory services for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the establishment and operation of national preventive mechanisms, as well as technical assistance for the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose, and also to provide the support necessary to enable the Subcommittee to provide advice and assistance to States parties to the Optional Protocol;

32. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur,[313] and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including its gender-based manifestations;

33. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his report information on the follow-up by States to his recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered, and on other official contacts;

34. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his task, to supply all necessary information requested by the Special Rapporteur, to fully and expeditiously respond to and follow up on his urgent appeals, to give serious consideration to responding favourably to requests by the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries and to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on requested visits to their countries as well as with respect to the follow-up to his recommendations;

35. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views among the Committee, the Subcommittee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with regional organizations and mechanisms, as appropriate, and with civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to the prevention and eradication of torture, inter alia, by improving their coordination;

36. *Recognizes* the global need for international assistance to victims of torture, stresses the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, appeals to all States and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, and welcomes the establishment of and encourages contributions to the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to support the implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee as well as education programmes of the national preventive mechanisms;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to transmit to all States the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Funds and to include the Funds on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

38. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the operations of the Funds;

39. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including, in particular, the Committee, the Subcommittee and the Special Rapporteur, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture, in order to enable them to discharge their mandates in a comprehensive, sustained and effective manner and taking fully into account the specific nature of their mandates;

40. *Calls upon* all States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

41. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-eighth session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol, the report of the Committee, the report of the Subcommittee and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur.

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[313] A/67/279.

## RESOLUTION 67/162

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[314] by a recorded vote of 174 to 1, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Syrian Arab Republic

*Abstaining:* Angola, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

### 67/162. United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[315]

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of 1993,[316] which reiterated the need to consider the possibility of establishing regional and subregional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights where they do not already exist,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 32/127 of 16 December 1977, 51/102 of 12 December 1996 and all its subsequent resolutions concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling further* its resolution 60/153 of 16 December 2005 on the establishment of a United Nations human rights training and documentation centre for South-West Asia and the Arab region,

*Recalling* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/51 of 9 March 1993[317] and all its subsequent resolutions concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Reaffirming* that regional cooperation plays a fundamental role in promoting and protecting human rights and should reinforce universal human rights, as contained in international human rights instruments, and their protection,

*Welcoming* the training activities and regional consultations conducted by the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region,

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[314] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cameroon, Comoros, Egypt, Grenada, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

[315] Resolution 217 A (III).

[316] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[317] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1993/23 and Corr.2, 4 and 5), chap. II, sect. A.

*Noting* that the developments in the Middle East and North Africa have generated growing demand for the services of the Centre, which as a result will not be able to discharge its mandate effectively without the allocation of adequate resources on an ongoing basis from the regular budget of the United Nations, as identified in the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[318]

*Mindful* of the vastness of and the diversity within South-West Asia and the Arab region,

1. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region;

2. *Notes* the support provided for the establishment of the Centre by the host country;

3. *Also notes* that the Centre has conducted a number of training activities and regional consultations on United Nations human rights mechanisms, human trafficking, the media and human rights education;

4. *Further notes* that the Centre is receiving an increasing number of requests for training and documentation, including in the Arabic language, which require additional resources and the reinforcement of its activities;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide funds and human resources from the regular budget of the United Nations, beginning in the biennium 2014–2015, to enable the Centre to respond positively and effectively to the growing needs in South-West Asia and the Arab region, to fulfil its mandate to undertake training and documentation activities and to support such efforts undertaken within the region by Governments, United Nations agencies and programmes, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, according to international human rights standards;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/163

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[319]

### 67/163. The role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[320]

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[321] in which the Conference reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national human rights institutions,

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[318] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 36* (A/67/36), para. 71.

[319] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[320] Resolution 217 A (III).

[321] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

*Reaffirming* its resolution 65/207 of 21 December 2010 on the role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling* the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993 and annexed thereto,

*Reaffirming* its previous resolutions on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular resolution 66/169 of 19 December 2011,

*Welcoming* the rapidly growing interest throughout the world in the creation and strengthening of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions, and recognizing the important role that these institutions can play, in accordance with their mandate, in support of national complaint resolution,

*Recognizing* the role of the existing Ombudsman, whether a male or female, mediator and other national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Underlining* the importance of the autonomy and independence of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions, where they exist, in order to enable them to consider all issues related to their fields of competence,

*Considering* the role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in promoting good governance in public administrations, as well as improving their relations with citizens, and in strengthening the delivery of public services,

*Considering also* the important role of the existing Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in contributing to the effective realization of the rule of law and respect for the principles of justice and equality,

*Stressing* that these institutions, where they exist, can play an important role in advising the Governments with respect to bringing national legislation and national practices into line with their international human rights obligations,

*Stressing also* the importance of international cooperation in the field of human rights, and recalling the role played by regional and international associations of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in promoting cooperation and sharing best practices,

*Noting with satisfaction* the active work of the Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen and the active continuing work of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsmen, the Association of Ombudsmen and Mediators of la Francophonie, the Asian Ombudsman Association, the African Ombudsman and Mediators Association, the Arab Ombudsman Network, the European Mediation Network Initiative, the International Ombudsman Institute and other active ombudsman and mediator associations and networks,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[322]

2. *Encourages* Member States:

(*a*) To consider the creation or the strengthening of independent and autonomous ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions at the national and, where applicable, the local level;

(*b*) To endow ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions, where they exist, with an adequate legislative framework and financial means in order to ensure the efficient and independent exercise of their mandate and to strengthen the legitimacy and credibility of their actions as mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights;

(*c*) To develop and conduct, as appropriate, outreach activities at the national level, in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, in order to raise awareness of the important role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions;

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[322] A/67/288.

3. *Recognizes* that, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[321] it is the right of each State to choose the framework for national institutions, including the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions, which is best suited to its particular needs at the national level, in order to promote human rights in accordance with international human rights instruments;

4. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in all international and regional meetings of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions;

5. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, through its advisory services, to develop and support activities dedicated to the existing Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions and to strengthen their role within national systems for human rights protection;

6. *Encourages* the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions, where they exist:

(*a*) To operate, as appropriate, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles)[323] and other relevant international instruments, in order to strengthen their independence and autonomy and to enhance their capacity to assist Member States in the promotion and protection of human rights;

(*b*) To request, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, their accreditation by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in order to enable them to interact effectively with the relevant human rights bodies of the United Nations system;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/164

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[324]

### 67/164. Human rights and extreme poverty

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[325] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[326] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[326] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[327] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[328] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[329] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[330] and other human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations,

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[323] Resolution 48/134, annex.

[324] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[325] Resolution 217 A (III).

[326] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[327] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[328] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[329] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[330] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

*Recalling* its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it declared 17 October the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, and its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007, by which it proclaimed the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), as well as its resolution 65/214 of 21 December 2010 and its previous resolutions on human rights and extreme poverty, in which it reaffirmed that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them,

*Recalling also* its resolution 52/134 of 12 December 1997, in which it recognized that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights was essential for the effective understanding, promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recalling further* Human Rights Council resolutions 2/2 of 27 November 2006,[331] 7/27 of 28 March 2008,[332] 8/11 of 18 June 2008,[333] 12/19 of 2 October 2009[334] and 15/19 of 30 September 2010,[335]

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolution 21/11 of 27 September 2012,[336] by which the Council adopted the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights[337] as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate,

*Reaffirming* the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, welcoming the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, and recalling its outcome document, contained in resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010,

*Deeply concerned* that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that its extent and its manifestations, such as hunger, trafficking in human beings, disease, lack of adequate shelter, illiteracy and hopelessness, are particularly severe in developing countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

*Deeply concerned also* that gender inequality, violence and discrimination exacerbate extreme poverty, disproportionally impacting women and girls,

*Stressing* that special attention should be given to children, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples who are living in extreme poverty,

*Concerned* by the challenges faced today, including those derived from the financial and economic crisis, the food crisis and ongoing concerns over food security, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity, and by their impact on the increase in the number of people living in extreme poverty and their negative effect on the capacity of all States, especially developing countries, to fight extreme poverty,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of extreme poverty is a major challenge within the process of globalization and requires coordinated and continued policies through decisive national action and international cooperation,

*Recognizing also* that social protection systems make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are in vulnerable or marginalized situations and are trapped in poverty and subject to discrimination,

*Stressing* the necessity of better understanding and addressing the causes and consequences of extreme poverty,

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[331] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. I, sect. A.

[332] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[333] Ibid., chap. III, sect. A.

[334] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/65/53 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[335] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[336] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[337] A/HRC/21/39.

*Reaffirming* that, since the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and may, in some situations, constitute a threat to the right to life, its immediate alleviation and eventual eradication must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Stressing* that respect for all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, is of crucial importance for all policies and programmes to fight extreme poverty,

*Reaffirming* that democracy, development and the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and contribute to the eradication of extreme poverty,

1. *Reaffirms* that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is essential for States to foster participation by the poorest people in the decision-making process in the societies in which they live, in the promotion of human rights and in efforts to combat extreme poverty and that it is essential for people living in and affected by poverty and in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations to be empowered to organize themselves and to participate in all aspects of political, economic, social and cultural life, in particular the planning and implementation of policies that affect them, thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development;

3. *Emphasizes* that extreme poverty is a major issue to be addressed by Governments, civil society, community-based social organizations and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, and in this context reaffirms that political commitment is a prerequisite for the eradication of poverty;

4. *Reaffirms* that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and renders democracy and popular participation fragile;

5. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

6. *Reaffirms* the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[338] in particular the commitments to spare no effort to fight against extreme poverty and to achieve development and poverty eradication, including the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one United States dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger;

7. *Also reaffirms* the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, including women and girls;[339]

8. *Further reaffirms* the commitment made at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals to accelerating progress in order to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015;[340]

9. *Recalls* that promoting universal access to social services and providing social protection floors can make an important contribution to consolidating and achieving further development gains and that social protection systems that address and reduce inequality and social exclusion are essential for protecting the gains made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard takes note of International Labour Organization Recommendation No. 202 on social protection floors;

10. *Encourages* States, when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating social protection programmes, to ensure gender mainstreaming and the promotion and protection of all human rights in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law, through this process;

11. *Also encourages* States to take all necessary measures to eliminate discrimination against all persons, in particular those living in poverty, to refrain from adopting any laws, regulations or practices denying or

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[338] Resolution 55/2.

[339] See resolution 60/1.

[340] See resolution 65/1.

limiting the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic, social and cultural rights, and to ensure that people, in particular those living in poverty, have equal access to justice;

12. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen and support South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, and stresses that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

13. *Encourages* the international community to strengthen its efforts to address challenges that are contributing to extreme poverty, including those derived from the financial and economic crisis, the food crisis and ongoing concerns over food security, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity in all parts of the world, especially in developing countries, by enhancing its cooperation to help to build national capacities;

14. *Reaffirms* the critical role of both formal and informal education in the achievement of poverty eradication and other development goals as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration, in particular basic education and training for eradicating illiteracy, and efforts towards expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty, in this context reaffirms the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum on 28 April 2000,[341] and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education for All programmes as a tool to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education by 2015;

15. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to give high priority to the question of the relationship between extreme poverty and human rights, and also invites her to further pursue the work in this area;

16. *Calls upon* States, United Nations bodies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to continue to give appropriate attention to the links between human rights and extreme poverty, and encourages the private sector and international financial institutions to proceed likewise;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights,[337] adopted by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 21/11[336] as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate;

18. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, funds, programmes and specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions as well as non-governmental organizations and non-State actors, including the private sector, to consider the guiding principles in the formulation and implementation of their policies and measures concerning persons affected by extreme poverty;

19. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to disseminate the guiding principles, as appropriate;

20. *Welcomes* the efforts of entities throughout the United Nations system to incorporate the Millennium Declaration and the internationally agreed development goals set out therein into their work;

21. *Also welcomes* the work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights and her reports, submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions;[342]

22. *Decides* to consider the question further at its sixty-ninth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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[341] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[342] A/66/265 and A/67/278.

## RESOLUTION 67/165

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[343] by a recorded vote of 133 to 54, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* South Sudan, Togo

### 67/165. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing, in particular, the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[344] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[345] the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[346] the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, adopted on 24 April 2009,[347] and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, entitled "United against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", of 22 September 2011,[348]

*Recalling also* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[349] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[349]

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[343] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[344] Resolution 217 A (III).

[345] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[346] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[347] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

[348] Resolution 66/3.

[349] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[350] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[351] and twenty-fourth[352] special sessions of the General Assembly, held in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000, respectively,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 66/154 and 66/161 of 19 December 2011,

*Recalling further* Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/17 of 14 April 2005 on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,[353]

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolutions 17/4 of 16 June 2011[354] on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises and 21/5 of 27 September 2012[355] on the contribution of the United Nations system as a whole to the advancement of the business and human rights agenda and the dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[356]

*Recognizing* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

*Realizing* that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, inter alia, in the field of human rights,

*Realizing also* that globalization is not merely an economic process, but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions, which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Emphasizing* the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement the commitments made in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields, and reaffirming in particular the commitment contained in paragraphs 19 and 47 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome[357] to promote fair globalization and the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

*Realizing* the need to undertake a thorough, independent and comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and cultural impact of globalization on societies,

*Recognizing* in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind, and aware of the risk that globalization poses more of a threat to cultural diversity if the developing world remains poor and marginalized,

*Recognizing also* that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

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[350] Resolution 55/2.

[351] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[352] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[353] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[354] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[355] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[356] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[357] Resolution 60/1.

*Realizing* the need to consider the challenges and opportunities linked to globalization with a view to addressing such challenges and building on possible opportunities in order to achieve the full enjoyment of all human rights,

*Emphasizing* the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and the need to protect the human rights of migrants, particularly at a time in which migration flows have increased in the globalized economy,

*Expressing grave concern* at the negative impact of international financial turmoil on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly in the light of the continuing global financial and economic crisis, which has an adverse impact on the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, particularly the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing that developing countries are in a more vulnerable situation when facing such impact and that regional economic cooperation and development strategies and programmes can play a role in mitigating such impact,

*Expressing deep concern* at the negative impact of the continuing global food and energy crises and climate change challenges on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights for all,

*Recognizing* that globalization should be guided by the fundamental principles that underpin the corpus of human rights, such as equity, participation, accountability, non-discrimination at both the national and the international levels, respect for diversity, tolerance and international cooperation and solidarity,

*Emphasizing* that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full realization and effective enjoyment of human rights and that its immediate alleviation and eventual elimination must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Acknowledging* that there is greater acceptance that the increasing debt burden faced by the most indebted developing countries is unsustainable and constitutes one of the principal obstacles to achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication and that, for many developing countries, excessive debt servicing has severely constrained their capacity to promote social development and to provide basic services to realize economic, social and cultural rights,

*Strongly reiterating* the determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including those agreed at the Millennium Summit, described as the Millennium Development Goals, which have helped to galvanize efforts towards poverty eradication,

*Gravely concerned* at the inadequacy of measures to narrow the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, which has contributed to, inter alia, deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

*Emphasizing* that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect all human rights,

*Emphasizing also* that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Emphasizes* that development should be at the centre of the international economic agenda and that coherence between national development strategies and international obligations and commitments is imperative for an enabling environment for development and an inclusive and equitable globalization;

3. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

4. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and the global levels that is conducive to development and to the eradication of poverty by, inter alia, promoting good governance within each

country and at the international level, eliminating protectionism, enhancing transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and committing to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

5. *Recognizes* the impacts that the global financial and economic crisis is still having on the ability of countries, particularly developing countries, to mobilize resources for development and to address the impact of this crisis, and in this context calls upon all States and the international community to alleviate, in an inclusive and development-oriented manner, any negative impacts of this crisis on the realization and the effective enjoyment of all human rights;

6. *Also recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, the fact that its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs unevenly distributed represents an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

7. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[358] which focuses on the liberalization of agricultural trade and its impact on the realization of the right to development, including the right to food, and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

8. *Reaffirms* the international commitment to eliminating hunger and to securing food for all, today and tomorrow, and reiterates that the relevant United Nations organizations should be assured the resources needed to expand and enhance their food assistance, and support social safety net programmes designed to address hunger and malnutrition, when appropriate, through the use of local or regional purchase;

9. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote inclusive, equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization so that poverty is systematically reduced and the international development targets are achieved;

10. *Recognizes* that the responsible operations of transnational corporations and other business enterprises can contribute to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular economic, social and cultural rights;

11. *Also recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

12. *Underlines* the urgent need to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system to strengthen and broaden the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

13. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

14. *Also affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that promotes and protects human rights while ensuring respect for the cultural diversity of all;

15. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[359] and requests him to continue to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system and to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a substantive report on the subject based on those views, including recommendations on ways to address the impact of globalization on the full enjoyment of all human rights.

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[358] E/CN.4/2002/54.

[359] A/67/163.

## RESOLUTION 67/166

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[360]

### 67/166. Human rights in the administration of justice

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the principles embodied in articles 3, 5, 8, 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[361] and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,[362] in particular articles 6, 7, 9 and 10 of the Covenant, the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[363] in particular articles 37, 39 and 40, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[364] as well as all other relevant international treaties,

*Calling attention* to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

*Recalling* all the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the subject of human rights in the administration of justice, including General Assembly resolutions 62/158 of 18 December 2007 and 65/213 of 21 December 2010 and Human Rights Council resolutions 10/2 of 25 March 2009[365] and 18/12 of 29 September 2011,[366]

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 67/1 of 24 September 2012, entitled "Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels",

*Welcoming* the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[367] and encouraging all States that have not done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

*Welcoming also* the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[368]

*Welcoming further* the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,[369]

*Taking note* of general comments No. 21 on the humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty[370] and No. 32 on the right to equality before courts and tribunals and to a fair trial,[371] adopted by the Human Rights

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[360] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[361] Resolution 217 A (III).

[362] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1642, No. 14688.

[363] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[364] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[365] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[366] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[367] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[368] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[369] Resolution 67/187, annex.

[370] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/47/40), annex VI.B.

[371] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/62/40), vol. I, annex VI.

Committee, and general comments No. 10 on children's rights in juvenile justice[372] and No. 13 on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence,[373] adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child,

*Noting with appreciation* the important work in the field of the administration of justice of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) as well as the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,

*Noting with satisfaction* the work of the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice and of its members, in particular their coordination in providing technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice, and the active participation of civil society in their respective work,

*Convinced* that the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and the integrity of the judicial system as well as an independent legal profession are essential prerequisites for the protection of human rights, the rule of law, good governance and democracy and for ensuring that there is no discrimination in the administration of justice and should therefore be respected in all circumstances,

*Recalling* that every State should provide an effective framework of remedies to redress human rights grievances or violations,

*Emphasizing* that the right to access to justice for all forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

*Mindful* of the importance of ensuring respect for the rule of law and human rights in the administration of justice as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity,

*Recognizing* the importance of the principle that, except for those lawful limitations that are demonstrably necessitated by the fact of incarceration, persons deprived of their liberty shall retain their non-derogable human rights and all other human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recalling* that the social rehabilitation of persons deprived of their liberty shall be among the essential aims of the criminal justice system, ensuring, as far as possible, that offenders are able to lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life upon their return to society,

*Aware* of the need for special vigilance with regard to the specific situation of children, juveniles and women in the administration of justice, in particular while they are deprived of their liberty, and their vulnerability to various forms of violence, abuse, injustice and humiliation,

*Recognizing* the specific situation and needs of children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups when accused of crimes under international law allegedly committed while they were associated with armed forces or armed groups,

*Reaffirming* that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all decisions concerning the child in the administration of justice, including in relation to pretrial measures, as well as being an important consideration in all matters concerning the child related to sentencing of his or her parents, or, where applicable, legal guardians or primary caregivers,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the most recent report of the Secretary-General;[374]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the most recent report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the protection of human rights of juveniles deprived of their liberty[375] and the joint report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Office on Drugs

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[372] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/63/41), annex IV.

[373] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/67/41), annex V.

[374] A/67/260 and Add.1.

[375] A/HRC/21/26.

and Crime and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children on prevention of and responses to violence against children within the juvenile justice system,[376] both submitted to the Human Rights Council;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

4. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States to spare no effort in providing for effective legislative and other mechanisms and procedures, as well as adequate resources, to ensure the full implementation of those standards;

5. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

6. *Appeals* to Governments to include in their national development plans the administration of justice as an integral part of the development process and to allocate adequate resources for the provision of legal aid services with a view to promoting and protecting human rights, and invites the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

7. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system, as well as juvenile justice reform, in order to establish and maintain stable societies and the rule of law in post-conflict situations, and in this context welcomes the role of the Office of the High Commissioner in supporting the establishment and functioning of transitional justice mechanisms in post-conflict situations;

8. *Affirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism, including in the administration of justice, complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

9. *Notes* the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to exchange information on best practices, as well as on national legislation and existing international law, and on the revision of existing United Nations standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners so that they reflect recent advances in correctional science and best practices, with a view to reporting on its progress to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its twenty-second session, and in this regard invites the expert group to benefit from the expertise of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and of the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant stakeholders;

10. *Recalls* the absolute prohibition of torture in international law, and calls upon States to address and prevent the detention conditions, treatment and punishment of persons deprived of their liberty that amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

11. *Urges* States to endeavour to reduce, where appropriate, pretrial detention, inter alia, by adopting legislative and administrative measures and policies on its preconditions, limitations, duration and alternatives and by taking measures aimed at the implementation of existing legislation, as well as by ensuring access to justice and legal advice and assistance;

12. *Encourages* States to address overcrowding in detention facilities by taking effective measures, including through enhancing the use of alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences where possible, access to legal aid and the efficiency as well as the capacity of the criminal justice system and its facilities;

13. *Continues to encourage* States to pay due attention to the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)[368] when developing and implementing relevant legislation, procedures, policies and action plans, and invites relevant special procedure mandate holders, the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and all other relevant organizations to take those rules into consideration in their activities;

14. *Recognizes* that every child and juvenile in conflict with the law must be treated in a manner consistent with his or her rights, dignity and needs, in accordance with international law, bearing in mind relevant

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[376] A/HRC/21/25.

international standards on human rights in the administration of justice, and calls upon States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[363] to abide strictly by its principles and provisions;

15. *Encourages* States that have not yet integrated children's issues into their overall rule of law efforts to do so and to develop and implement a comprehensive juvenile justice policy to prevent and address juvenile delinquency, as well as with a view to promoting, inter alia, the use of alternative measures, such as diversion and restorative justice, and complying with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

16. *Stresses* the importance of including reintegration strategies for former child offenders in juvenile justice policies, in particular through education programmes, with a view to their assuming a constructive role in society;

17. *Urges* States to take all necessary and effective measures, including legal reform where appropriate, to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children within the justice system;

18. *Also urges* States to ensure that, under their legislation and practice, neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without the possibility of release nor corporal punishment is imposed for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age, and invites States to consider repealing all other forms of life imprisonment for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age;

19. *Encourages* States not to set the minimum age of criminal responsibility at too low an age level, bearing in mind the emotional, mental and intellectual maturity of the child, and in this respect refers to the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to increase the lower minimum age of criminal responsibility without exception to the age of 12 years as the absolute minimum age, and to continue to increase it to a higher age level;[372]

20. *Also encourages* States to collect relevant information concerning children within their criminal justice systems so as to improve their administration of justice, while being mindful of the children's right to privacy, with full respect for relevant international human rights instruments, and bearing in mind applicable international standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

21. *Stresses* the importance of paying greater attention to the impact of the imprisonment of parents on their children, while noting with interest the day of general discussion on the situation of children of prisoners, held by the Committee on the Rights of the Child on 30 September 2011, as well as the summary report on the full-day meeting of the Human Rights Council on the rights of the child, held on 8 March 2012;[377]

22. *Invites* Governments to provide for tailored and interdisciplinary human rights training, including anti-racist, multicultural, gender-sensitive and child rights training, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration and police officers and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

23. *Encourages* the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, United Nations institutes active in the areas of human rights and crime prevention and criminal justice, and other relevant parts of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including national professional associations concerned with promoting United Nations standards in this field, and other segments of civil society, including the media, to continue to develop their activities in promoting human rights in the administration of justice;

24. *Invites* States, upon their request, to benefit from technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice provided by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes, in particular the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice, in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice, in particular juvenile justice;

25. *Invites* the Human Rights Council and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Office of the High Commissioner, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to closely coordinate their activities relating to the administration of justice;

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[377] A/HRC/21/31.

26. *Invites* the Office of the High Commissioner and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to reinforce, within their respective mandates, their activities relating to national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, and in this context to cooperate with relevant departments of the Secretariat, including the Peacebuilding Support Office, the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations;

27. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice and of respecting the rule of law and human rights, including in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity, and in this respect requests the Secretary-General to ensure system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General and supported by the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, and in cooperation with the Peacebuilding Commission, including assistance provided through United Nations field presences;

28. *Invites* States, in the context of the universal periodic review mechanism and in their reports under international human rights treaties, to consider addressing the promotion and protection of human rights in the administration of justice;

29. *Invites* relevant special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as well as relevant treaty bodies, to give special attention to questions relating to the effective protection of human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice, and to provide, wherever appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for advisory services and technical assistance measures;

30. *Invites* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider developing a set of model strategies and practical measures on the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in consultation with all Member States and in close collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities, in particular with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the Office of the High Commissioner;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fourth session a report on the latest developments, challenges and good practices in human rights in the administration of justice, analysing the international legal and institutional framework for the protection of all persons deprived of their liberty, and on the activities undertaken by the United Nations system as a whole;

32. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its sixty-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights"

## RESOLUTION 67/167

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[378]

### 67/167. Committee on the Rights of the Child

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Convention on the Rights of the Child[379] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[380]

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[378] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

[379] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[380] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention[381] and the report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child,[382]

*Taking note also* of the request of the Committee contained in annex III to its report,

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/254 of 23 February 2012 and 66/295 of 17 September 2012 on the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, and recognizing in this regard that a long-term solution to the problem of the increasing backlog of reports of States parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto awaiting review by the Committee can be found in this context,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made so far by the Committee on the Rights of the Child to improve the efficiency of its working methods, and encourages the Committee to build upon its activities in this regard;

2. *Notes* that a backlog of more than 100 reports exists related to the submission by States parties of their reports under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[379] and the Optional Protocols thereto[380] in conformity with their obligations, and notes with concern that if this backlog is not addressed, it will impede the ability of the Committee to consider reports in a timely manner;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee, recognizing that such a temporary measure is not a long-term solution to the backlog and without prejudice to the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, to meet in parallel chambers, of nine members each, for the 5 working days of one of its three pre-sessional working group meetings in 2014 and 13 working days of one of its three regular sessions in 2015, for the purposes of considering the reports of the States parties submitted under article 44 of the Convention, article 8 of the Optional Protocol thereto on the involvement of children in armed conflict[383] and article 12 of the Optional Protocol thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[384] taking due account of equitable geographical distribution and the principal legal systems;

4. *Invites* States parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto to adhere to the page limit established by the Committee for their reports, and notes that this would reduce the operating costs of the Committee.

## RESOLUTION 67/168

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[385] by a recorded vote of 117 to none, with 67 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia,

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[381] A/67/225.

[382] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/67/41).

[383] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2173, No. 27531.

[384] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[385] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

## 67/168. Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[386] which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person, the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[387] and other relevant human rights conventions,

*Reaffirming* the mandate of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, as set out in Council resolution 17/5 of 16 June 2011,[388]

*Welcoming* the universal ratification of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[389] which alongside human rights law provide an important framework of accountability in relation to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions during armed conflict,

*Mindful* of all its resolutions on the subject of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Human Rights Council on the subject,

*Noting with deep concern* that impunity continues to be a major cause of the perpetuation of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions,

*Acknowledging* that international human rights law and international humanitarian law are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

*Noting with deep concern* the growing number of civilians and persons hors de combat killed in situations of armed conflict and internal strife,

*Noting also with deep concern* the continuing instances of the arbitrary deprivation of life, as a result of the imposition and implementation of capital punishment in a manner that violates international law,

*Deeply concerned* about acts that can amount to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions committed against persons exercising their rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression in all regions of the world,

*Acknowledging* that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[390] and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes as set out in General Assembly resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and 63/308 of 14 September 2009,

*Convinced* of the need for effective action to prevent, combat and eliminate the abhorrent practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, which represent flagrant violations of international human rights law, particularly the right to life, as well as of international humanitarian law,

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[386] Resolution 217 A (III).

[387] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[388] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[389] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[390] Ibid., vol. 2187, No. 38544.

1. *Strongly condemns once again* all the extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that continue to occur throughout the world;

2. *Demands* that all States ensure that the practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions is brought to an end and that they take effective action to prevent, combat and eliminate the phenomenon in all its forms and manifestations;

3. *Reiterates* the obligation of all States under international law to conduct thorough, prompt and impartial investigations into all suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to identify and bring to justice those responsible, while ensuring the right of every person to a fair hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law, to grant adequate compensation within a reasonable time to the victims or their families and to adopt all necessary measures, including legal and judicial measures, to put an end to impunity and to prevent the further occurrence of such executions, as recommended in the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extralegal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions;[391]

4. *Calls upon* Governments, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to pay greater attention to the work of national-level commissions of inquiry into extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions with a view to ensuring the effective contribution of these commissions to accountability and to combating impunity;

5. *Calls upon* all States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to comply with their obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, and further calls upon States which retain the death penalty to pay particular regard to the provisions contained in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[387] and articles 37 and 40 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[392] bearing in mind the safeguards and guarantees set out in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and 1989/64 of 24 May 1989 and taking into account the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in his reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly, including the report submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session,[393] regarding the need to respect all safeguards and restrictions, including the most serious crimes limitation, stringent respect of due process and fair trial safeguards and the right to seek pardon or commutation of sentence;

6. *Urges* all States:

(*a*) To take all measures required by international human rights law and international humanitarian law to prevent loss of life, in particular that of children, during detention, arrest, public demonstrations, internal and communal violence, civil unrest, public emergencies or armed conflicts and to ensure that the police, law enforcement agents, armed forces and other agents acting on behalf of or with the consent or acquiescence of the State act with restraint and in conformity with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including the principles of proportionality and necessity, and in this regard to ensure that police and law enforcement officials are guided by the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials[394] and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials;[395]

(*b*) To ensure the effective protection of the right to life of all persons under their jurisdiction, to investigate promptly and thoroughly all killings, including those targeted at specific groups of persons, such as racially motivated violence leading to the death of the victim, killings of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities or because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, killings of persons affected by terrorism or hostage-taking or living under foreign occupation, killings of refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants, street children or members of indigenous communities, killings of persons for reasons related to their activities as human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists or demonstrators, killings committed in the name of passion or in the name of honour, and all killings committed for discriminatory reasons on any basis, to bring those responsible to justice before a competent, independent and impartial judiciary at the national or, where appropriate, international level and to ensure that such killings, including those committed by security forces, police and law enforcement agents, paramilitary groups or private forces, are neither condoned nor sanctioned by State officials or personnel;

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[391] Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65, annex.

[392] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[393] A/67/275.

[394] Resolution 34/169, annex.

[395] See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

7. *Affirms* the obligation of States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to protect the lives of all persons deprived of their liberty in all circumstances and to investigate and respond to deaths in custody;

8. *Urges* all States to ensure that persons deprived of their liberty are treated humanely and with full respect for international humanitarian and human rights law and that their treatment, including judicial guarantees, and conditions conform to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners[396] and, where applicable, to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[389] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 8 June 1977,[397] in relation to all persons detained in armed conflict, as well as to other pertinent international instruments;

9. *Urges* States to prevent and, where such situations exist, to end prisoner control of prisons, bearing in mind the obligation of the State to protect human rights, including protection against extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

10. *Welcomes* the International Criminal Court as an important contribution to ending impunity concerning extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and, noting the growing awareness of the Court worldwide, calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate with the Court to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences, further welcomes the fact that 121 States have already ratified or acceded to and 139 States have signed the Rome Statute of the Court,[390] and calls upon all those States that have not ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court[398] to give serious consideration to doing so;

11. *Acknowledges* the importance of ensuring the protection of witnesses for the prosecution of those suspected of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, urges States to intensify efforts to establish and implement effective witness protection programmes or other measures, and in this regard encourages the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to develop practical tools designed to encourage and facilitate greater attention to the protection of witnesses;

12. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and to support projects with a view to training or educating military forces, law enforcement officers and government officials in international humanitarian and human rights law connected with their work and to include a gender and child rights perspective in such training, and appeals to the international community and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to support endeavours to that end;

13. *Expresses its concern* about the occurrence of vigilante killings around the globe, encourages States, in order to support efforts to prevent and end such killings, to undertake or facilitate systematic studies of the phenomenon with a view to taking context-specific measures and focused action, and requests the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations entities, upon request, to support such studies and their follow-up;

14. *Takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council,[399] and invites States to take due consideration of the recommendations contained therein;

15. *Commends* the important role that the Special Rapporteur plays towards the elimination of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue, within his mandate, to collect

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[396] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, Volume I (First Part), *Universal Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIV.4 (Vol. I, Part 1)), sect. J, No. 34.

[397] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[398] Ibid., vol. 2271, No. 40446.

[399] See A/66/330 and A/67/275.

information from all concerned, to respond effectively to reliable information that comes before him, to follow up on communications and country visits and to seek the views and comments of Governments and to reflect them, as appropriate, in his reports;

16. *Acknowledges* the important role of the Special Rapporteur in identifying cases where extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions could amount to genocide and crimes against humanity or war crimes, and urges the Special Rapporteur to collaborate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, as appropriate, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide in addressing situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that are of particularly serious concern or in which early action might prevent further deterioration;

17. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Special Rapporteur and other United Nations mechanisms and procedures in the field of human rights, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue efforts in that regard;

18. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have not done so, to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur so that his mandate can be carried out effectively, including by favourably and rapidly responding to requests for visits, mindful that country visits are one of the essential tools for the fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and by responding in a timely manner to communications and other requests transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* to those States that have received the Special Rapporteur, asks them to examine his recommendations carefully, invites them to inform him of the actions taken on those recommendations, and requests other States to cooperate in a similar way;

20. *Once again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standards of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 9, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appear not to have been respected;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with adequate human, financial and material resources to enable him to carry out his mandate effectively, including through country visits;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close collaboration with the High Commissioner, in conformity with the mandate of the High Commissioner established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to ensure that personnel specialized in international humanitarian and human rights law form part of United Nations missions, where appropriate, in order to deal with serious violations of human rights, such as extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

23. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions a report on the situation worldwide in regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and his recommendations for more effective action to combat this phenomenon;

24. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-ninth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/169

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[400]

### 67/169. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming its commitment* to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and

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[400] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador and Russian Federation.

Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[401] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

*Recalling* its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000[402] and its resolution 66/152 of 19 December 2011, Human Rights Council resolution 19/33 of 23 March 2012[403] and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

*Recalling also* the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[404] and their role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recognizing also* that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

*Reaffirming* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

*Emphasizing* the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

*Underlining* the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling* the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, on the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues, by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[405]

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Recognizes* that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level;

3. *Reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

4. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

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[401] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[402] Resolution 55/2.

[403] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[404] Resolution 66/3.

[405] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

6. *Considers* that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

8. *Emphasizes* the role of international cooperation in support of national efforts and in increasing the capacities of Member States in the field of human rights through, inter alia, the enhancement of their cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including through the provision of technical assistance, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned;

9. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

10. *Urges* States to take necessary measures to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation aimed at addressing the adverse impact of consecutive and compounded global crises, such as financial and economic crises, food crises, climate change and natural disasters, on the full enjoyment of human rights;

11. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

12. *Recalls* the initiative of the Human Rights Council to organize a seminar on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights, with the participation of States, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other stakeholders, including academic experts and civil society, as decided in Council resolution 19/33;[403]

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means, as well as obstacles and challenges and possible proposals to overcome them, for the enhancement of international cooperation and dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Human Rights Council;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/170

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[406] by a recorded vote of 128 to 54, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic,

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[406] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by China, and Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Chad, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo

## 67/170. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which was resolution 66/156 of 19 December 2011, and Human Rights Council decision 18/120 of 30 September 2011[407] and resolution 19/32 of 23 March 2012,[408] as well as previous resolutions of the Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

*Reaffirming* the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/156,[409] and recalling the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolutions 52/120 of 12 December 1997[410] and 55/110 of 4 December 2000,[411]

*Stressing* that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States,

*Recognizing* the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

*Recalling* the Final Document of the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,[412] the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,[413] and those adopted at previous summits and conferences, in which States members of the Movement agreed to oppose and condemn those measures or laws and their continued application, persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them and urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other United Nations organs, and request States applying those measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately,

*Recalling also* that, at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, States were called upon to refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights[414] and also severely threatens the freedom of trade,

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[407] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. III.

[408] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III.

[409] A/67/181.

[410] A/53/293 and Add.1.

[411] A/56/207 and Add.1.

[412] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I.

[413] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[414] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

*Bearing in mind* all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[415] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[416] the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996,[417] and their five-year reviews,

*Expressing concern* about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

*Expressing grave concern* that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities,

*Deeply concerned* that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and recent major United Nations conferences, and contrary to general international law and the Charter, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented, with all their negative implications for the social humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

*Bearing in mind* all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

*Reaffirming* that unilateral coercive measures are a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[418]

*Recalling* article 1, paragraph 2, common to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[419] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[419] which provides, inter alia, that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, and reaffirming in particular its criteria, according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Urges* all States to cease adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, in particular those of a coercive nature, with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[420] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

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[415] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[416] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[417] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[418] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[419] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[420] Resolution 217 A (III).

3. *Urges* all States not to adopt any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for his or her health and well-being and his or her right to food, medical care and education and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

4. *Strongly objects* to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States, and in this context calls upon all Member States neither to recognize those measures nor to apply them, as well as to take administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

5. *Condemns* the continuing unilateral application and enforcement by certain Powers of unilateral coercive measures, and rejects those measures, with all their extraterritorial effects, as being tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, adopted with a view to preventing those countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, and because of the negative effects of those measures on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

6. *Reaffirms* that essential goods such as food and medicines should not be used as tools for political coercion and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development;

7. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to abide by the principles of international law, the Charter, the declarations of the United Nations and world conferences and relevant resolutions and to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are parties by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

8. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

9. *Recalls* that, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX), in particular article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

10. *Rejects* all attempts to introduce unilateral coercive measures, and urges the Human Rights Council to take fully into account the negative impact of those measures, including through the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application which are not in conformity with international law, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

11. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

12. *Underlines* the fact that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[418] and in this regard calls upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of national laws that run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of developing countries, as recognized by the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council;

13. *Recognizes* that, in the Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[421] States were strongly urged to avoid

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[421] A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

and refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations in building the information society;

14. *Reiterates its support* for the invitation of the Human Rights Council to all special rapporteurs and existing thematic mechanisms of the Council in the field of economic, social and cultural rights to pay due attention within the scope of their respective mandates, to the negative impact and consequences of unilateral coercive measures;

15. *Reaffirms* the request of the Human Rights Council that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights prepare a thematic study on the impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, including recommendations on actions aimed at ending such measures, taking into account all previous reports, resolutions and relevant information available to the United Nations system in this regard, to be submitted to the Council at its nineteenth session;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, while reiterating once again the need to highlight the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

17. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its sixty-eighth session, under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## RESOLUTION 67/171

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[422] by a recorded vote of 154 to 4, with 28 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Canada, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Albania, Australia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

### 67/171. The right to development

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and, to that end, to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

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[422] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador and South Sudan.

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[423] as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[424] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[424]

*Recalling also* the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, which confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and that the individual is the central subject and beneficiary of development,

*Stressing* that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[425] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights, and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

*Reaffirming* the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,[426]

*Deeply concerned* that the majority of indigenous peoples in the world live in conditions of poverty, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty and inequity on indigenous peoples by ensuring their full and effective inclusion in development and poverty eradication programmes,

*Reaffirming* the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness, interdependence and mutually reinforcing nature of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development,

*Expressing deep concern* over the lack of progress in the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, and reaffirming the need for a successful outcome of the Doha Development Round in key areas such as agriculture, market access for non-agricultural products, trade facilitation, development and services,

*Recalling* the outcome of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Accra from 20 to 25 April 2008, on the theme "Addressing the opportunities and challenges of globalization for development",[427]

*Recalling also* all its previous resolutions, Human Rights Council resolution 21/32 of 28 September 2012,[428] previous resolutions of the Council and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998[429] on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development as set out in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

*Recalling further* the outcome of the eleventh session of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 April 2010, as contained in the report of the Working Group[430] and as referred to in the report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[431]

*Recalling* the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012, and the previous summits and conferences at which the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries stressed the need to operationalize the right to development as a priority,

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[423] Resolution 217 A (III).

[424] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[425] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[426] Resolution 55/2.

[427] See TD/442 and Corr.1 and 2.

[428] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[429] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[430] A/HRC/15/23.

[431] A/HRC/15/24.

*Reiterating its continuing support* for the New Partnership for Africa's Development[432] as a development framework for Africa,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council and the members of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development in completing the 2008–2010 three-phase road map established by the Council in its resolution 4/4 of 30 March 2007,[433]

*Deeply concerned* about the negative impacts of the global economic and financial crises on the realization of the right to development,

*Recognizing* that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights,

*Recognizing also* that Member States should cooperate with each other in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development, that the international community should promote effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development and the elimination of obstacles to development and that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

*Recognizing further* that poverty is an affront to human dignity,

*Recognizing* that extreme poverty and hunger are one of the greatest global threats and require the collective commitment of the international community for its eradication, pursuant to Millennium Development Goal 1, and therefore calling upon the international community, including the Human Rights Council, to contribute towards achieving that goal,

*Recognizing also* that historical injustices have undeniably contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparity, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries,

*Stressing* that poverty eradication is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels, especially in the context of the Millennium Development Goal of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one United States dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;[434]

2. *Recognizes* the significance of all the events held to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[435] including the panel discussion on the theme "The way forward in the realization of the right to development: between policy and practice", held during the eighteenth session of the Human Rights Council;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations adopted by consensus by the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council at its eleventh session,[430] and, while reaffirming them, calls for their immediate, full and effective implementation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant actors, noting also the efforts under way within the framework of the Working Group with a view to completing the tasks entrusted to it by the Council in its resolution 4/4;[433]

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[432] A/57/304, annex.

[433] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[434] A/HRC/19/45.

[435] Resolution 41/128, annex.

4. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Working Group, as renewed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 9/3 of 24 September 2008,[436] with the recognition that the Working Group may convene annual sessions of five working days and submit its reports to the Council;

5. *Welcomes* the launching, in the Working Group, of the process for considering, revising and refining the draft right-to-development criteria and corresponding operational subcriteria,[437] with the first reading of the draft criteria;

6. *Emphasizes* the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council, and in this regard calls upon the Council to implement the agreement to continue to act to ensure that its agenda promotes and advances sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and also in this regard to lead to raising the right to development, as set out in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[425] to the same level as and on a par with all other human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Notes* the work of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development, the mandate of which ended in 2010, including its consolidation of findings and the list of right-to-development criteria and corresponding operational subcriteria;[438]

8. *Encourages* Member States and relevant stakeholders, when submitting views on the work of the high-level task force and the way forward, to take into consideration the essential features of the right to development, using as a reference the Declaration on the Right to Development and resolutions on the right to development of the Commission on Human Rights, the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

9. *Stresses* that the above-mentioned compilations of views, criteria and corresponding operational subcriteria, once considered, revised and endorsed by the Working Group, should be used, as appropriate, in the elaboration of a comprehensive and coherent set of standards for the implementation of the right to development;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Working Group taking appropriate steps to ensure respect for and practical application of the above-mentioned standards, which could take various forms, including the elaboration of guidelines on the implementation of the right to development, and evolve into a basis for consideration of an international legal standard of a binding nature through a collaborative process of engagement;

11. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles contained in the conclusions of the Working Group at its third session,[439] congruent with the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, non-discrimination, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the national and international levels, and underlines the importance of the principles of equity and transparency;

12. *Also stresses* that it is important that the Chair-Rapporteur and the Working Group, in the discharge of their mandates, take into account the need:

(*a*) To promote the democratization of the system of international governance in order to increase the effective participation of developing countries in international decision-making;

(*b*) To also promote effective partnerships such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development[432] and other similar initiatives with the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, for the purpose of the realization of their right to development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(*c*) To strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level, while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also urging all States to expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development in the context of promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, bearing in mind that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

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[436] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. I.

[437] See A/HRC/15/WG.2/TF/2/Add.2.

[438] See A/HRC/15/WG.2/TF/2 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2.

[439] See E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1, sect. VIII.A.

(*d*) To consider ways and means to continue to ensure the operationalization of the right to development as a priority;

(*e*) To mainstream the right to development in the policies and operational activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, as well as in the policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading systems, bearing in mind in this regard that the core principles of the international economic, commercial and financial spheres, such as equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, including effective partnerships for development, are indispensable in achieving the right to development and preventing discriminatory treatment arising from political or other non-economic considerations in addressing the issues of concern to the developing countries;

13. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council to continue considering how to ensure follow-up to the work of the former Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the right to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and in compliance with decisions to be taken by the Council;

14. *Invites* Member States and all other stakeholders to participate actively in future sessions of the Social Forum, while recognizing the strong support extended to the Forum at its first four sessions by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implement the goals and targets set out in all the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their review processes, in particular those relating to the realization of the right to development, recognizing that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set in those outcome documents;

16. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

17. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

18. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of States to create national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, as well as their commitment to cooperate with each other to that end;

19. *Also reaffirms* the need for an international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

20. *Stresses* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international and national levels, and calls upon all States to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

21. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and the international levels;

22. *Affirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, and stresses the need for policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable;

23. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that most of the developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

24. *Expresses its deep concern*, in this regard, about the negative impact on the realization of the right to development due to the further aggravation of the economic and social situation, in particular of developing countries, as a result of the ongoing international energy, food and financial crises, as well as the increasing challenges posed by global climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which have increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and have adversely affected development gains, in particular in developing countries;

25. *Underlines* the fact that the international community is far from meeting the target set in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[426] of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, reaffirms the commitment made to meet that target, and emphasizes the principle of international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries towards achieving the goal;

26. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

27. *Recognizes* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in the sectors of agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

28. *Calls once again for* the implementation of a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation in the World Trade Organization; the implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns; a review of special and differential treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational; the avoidance of new forms of protectionism; and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries as important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

29. *Recognizes* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development; stresses in this regard the need for good governance and for broadening the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and the need to fill organizational gaps, as well as to strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions; and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

30. *Also recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

31. *Further recognizes* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive relationship between the education of women and their equal participation in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social activities of the community and the promotion of the right to development;

32. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, girls and boys alike, in all policies and programmes and for ensuring the promotion and protection of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

33. *Recalls* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, adopted on 10 June 2011 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV and AIDS,[440] stresses that further and additional measures must be taken at the national and international levels to fight HIV and AIDS and other communicable diseases, taking into account ongoing efforts and programmes, and reiterates the need for international assistance in this regard;

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[440] Resolution 65/277, annex.

34. *Welcomes* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011,[441] with a particular focus on development and other challenges and social and economic impacts, particularly for developing countries;

35. *Recalls* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want";[442]

36. *Also recalls* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[443] which entered into force on 3 May 2008, and stresses the need to take into consideration the rights of persons with disabilities and the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts in the realization of the right to development;

37. *Stresses its commitment* to indigenous peoples in the process of the realization of the right to development, and reaffirms the commitment to promote their rights in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security, in accordance with recognized international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007;

38. *Recognizes* the need for strong partnerships with civil society organizations and the private sector in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for corporate social responsibility;

39. *Emphasizes* the urgent need for taking concrete and effective measures to prevent, combat and criminalize all forms of corruption at all levels, to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[444] particularly chapter V thereof, stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework, and in this context urges States to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible and States parties to implement it effectively;

40. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and realization of the right to development, including by ensuring effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Office of the High Commissioner with the necessary resources;

41. *Reaffirms* the request to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in mainstreaming the right to development, to undertake effectively activities aimed at strengthening the global partnership for development among Member States, development agencies and the international development, financial and trade institutions and to reflect those activities in detail in her next report to the Human Rights Council;

42. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, to mainstream the right to development in their operational programmes and objectives, and stresses the need for the international financial and multilateral trading systems to mainstream the right to development in their policies and objectives;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international development and financial institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

44. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and an interim report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and realization of the right to development, and invites the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group to present an oral report and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session.

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[441] Resolution 66/2, annex.

[442] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[443] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[444] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

## RESOLUTION 67/172

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[445]

### 67/172. Protection of migrants

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on the protection of migrants, the most recent of which is resolution 66/172 of 19 December 2011, as well as its resolution 66/128 of 19 December 2011 on violence against women migrant workers, and recalling also Human Rights Council resolution 20/3 of 5 July 2012,[446]

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[447] which proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

*Reaffirming also* that everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State and the right to leave any country, including his or her own, and to return to his or her country,

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[448] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[448] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[449] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[450] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[451] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[452] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[453] the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations[454] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[455]

*Acknowledging* the relevant contribution of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to the international system for the protection of migrants,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[456] in which States are called upon to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants regardless of migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability,

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[445] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda and Uruguay.

[446] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[447] Resolution 217 A (III).

[448] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[449] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[450] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[451] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[452] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[453] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[454] Ibid., vol. 596, No. 8638.

[455] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[456] Resolution 66/288, annex.

*Recalling also* the provisions concerning migrants contained in the outcome documents of all major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[457] which recognizes that migrant workers are among the most affected and vulnerable in the context of financial and economic crises,

*Recalling further* Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006[458] and 2009/1 of 3 April 2009,[459]

*Recalling* that the Commission will consider the issue of new trends in migration: demographic aspects at its forty-sixth session in 2013,

*Taking note* of advisory opinion OC-16/99 of 1 October 1999 on the Right to Information on Consular Assistance in the Framework of the Guarantees of the Due Process of Law and advisory opinion OC-18/03 of 17 September 2003 on the Juridical Condition and Rights of Undocumented Migrants, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights,

*Taking note also* of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 31 March 2004 in the case concerning *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals*[460] and the Judgment of the Court of 19 January 2009 regarding the request for interpretation of the *Avena* Judgment,[461] and recalling the obligations of States reaffirmed in both decisions,

*Underlining* the importance of the Human Rights Council in promoting respect for the protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, including migrants,

*Recognizing* the increasing participation of women in international migration movements,

*Looking forward* to the convening of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2013, and recalling the previous High-level Dialogue on the subject, held in New York on 14 and 15 September 2006, for the purpose of discussing the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development, at which, inter alia, the relationship between international migration, development and human rights was recognized,

*Noting* that the sixth meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Port Louis on 21 and 22 November 2012, drew together the outcomes of several preparatory meetings, focusing on the overarching theme "Enhancing the development of migrants and their contribution to the development of communities and States" as a contribution to promoting international cooperation among States and between States and other actors in order to strengthen the capacity of States to address migration and development opportunities and challenges more effectively,

*Recognizing* the cultural and economic contributions made by migrants to receiving societies and their communities of origin, as well as the need to identify appropriate means of maximizing development benefits and responding to the challenges that migration poses to countries of origin, transit and destination, especially in the light of the impact of the financial and economic crisis, and committing to ensuring dignified, humane treatment with applicable protections and to strengthening mechanisms for international cooperation,

*Emphasizing* the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and dialogue in this regard, as appropriate, and the need to protect the human rights of migrants, particularly at a time in which migration flows have increased in the globalized economy and take place in a context of new security concerns,

*Recognizing* that women migrant workers are important contributors to social and economic development in countries of origin and destination through the economic and social impacts of their work, and underlining the value and dignity of their labour, including the labour of domestic workers,

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[457] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[458] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[459] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 5* (E/2009/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[460] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/59/4), chap. V, sect. A.23.

[461] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/64/4), chap. V, sect. B.12.

*Bearing in mind* the obligations of States under international law, as applicable, to exercise due diligence to prevent crimes against migrants and to investigate and punish perpetrators, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims,

*Affirming* that crimes against migrants, including trafficking in persons, continue to pose a serious challenge and require a concerted international assessment and response and genuine multilateral cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for their eradication,

*Bearing in mind* that policies and initiatives on the issue of migration, including those that refer to the orderly management of migration, should promote holistic approaches that take into account the causes and consequences of the phenomenon, as well as full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants,

*Stressing* the importance of regulations and laws regarding irregular migration, at all levels of government, being in accordance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights law,

*Stressing also* the obligation of States to protect the human rights of migrants regardless of their migration status, and expressing its concern at measures which, including in the context of policies aimed at reducing irregular migration, treat irregular migration as a criminal rather than an administrative offence where the effect of doing so is to deny migrants full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Aware* that, as criminals take advantage of migratory flows and attempt to circumvent restrictive immigration policies, migrants become more vulnerable to, inter alia, kidnapping, extortion, forced labour, sexual exploitation, physical assault, debt servitude and abandonment,

*Recognizing* the contributions of young migrants to countries of origin and destination, and in that regard encouraging States to consider the specific circumstances and needs of young migrants,

*Concerned* about the large and growing number of migrants, especially women and children, who place themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents, and recognizing the obligation of States to respect the human rights of those migrants,

*Stressing* that penalties and the treatment given to irregular migrants should be commensurate with their infraction,

*Recognizing* the importance of having a comprehensive and balanced approach to international migration, and bearing in mind that migration enriches the economic, political, social and cultural fabric of States and the historical and cultural ties that exist among some regions,

*Recognizing also* the obligations of countries of origin, transit and destination under international human rights law,

*Underlining* the importance for States, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to undertake information campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations, risks and rights in the event of migration, in order to enable everyone to make informed decisions and to prevent anyone from utilizing dangerous means to cross international borders,

1. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

2. *Expresses its concern* about the impact of financial and economic crises on international migration and migrants, and in that regard urges Governments to combat unfair and discriminatory treatment of migrants, in particular migrant workers and their families;

3. *Reaffirms* the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[447] and the obligations of States under the International Covenants on Human Rights,[448] and in this regard:

(*a*) Strongly condemns the acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urges States to apply and, where needed, reinforce the existing laws when xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur, in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit those acts;

(*b*) Expresses concern about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

(*c*) Calls upon States to ensure that their laws and policies, including in the areas of counter-terrorism and combating transnational organized crime, such as trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, fully respect the human rights of migrants;

(*d*) Calls upon States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[455] as a matter of priority, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Convention;

(*e*) Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on its fifteenth and sixteenth sessions;[462]

4. *Also reaffirms* the duty of States to effectively promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, especially those of women and children, regardless of their migration status, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international instruments to which they are party, and therefore:

(*a*) Calls upon all States to respect the human rights and the inherent dignity of migrants and to put an end to arbitrary arrest and detention and, where necessary, to review detention periods in order to avoid excessive detention of irregular migrants, and to adopt, where applicable, alternative measures to detention;

(*b*) Urges all States to adopt effective measures to prevent and punish any form of illegal deprivation of liberty of migrants by individuals or groups;

(*c*) Notes with appreciation the measures adopted by some States to reduce detention periods in cases of undocumented migration in the application of national regulations and laws regarding irregular migration;

(*d*) Also notes with appreciation the successful implementation by some States of alternative measures to detention in cases of undocumented migration as a practice that deserves consideration by all States;

(*e*) Requests States to adopt concrete measures to prevent the violation of the human rights of migrants while in transit, including in ports and airports and at borders and migration checkpoints, to train public officials who work in those facilities and in border areas to treat migrants respectfully and in accordance with the law, and to prosecute, in conformity with applicable law, any act of violation of the human rights of migrants, inter alia, arbitrary detention, torture and violations of the right to life, including extrajudicial executions, during their transit from their country of origin to the country of destination and vice versa, including their transit through national borders;

(*f*) Underlines the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship, and recalls that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received;

(*g*) Reaffirms emphatically the duty of States parties to ensure full respect for and observance of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[454] in particular with regard to the right of all foreign nationals, regardless of their migration status, to communicate with a consular official of the sending State in case of arrest, imprisonment, custody or detention, and the obligation of the receiving State to inform the foreign national without delay of his or her rights under the Convention;

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[462] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 48* and corrigendum (A/67/48 and Corr.1).

(*h*) Requests all States, in conformity with national legislation and applicable international legal instruments to which they are party, to enforce labour law effectively, including by addressing violations of such law, with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

(*i*) Encourages all States to remove unlawful obstacles, where they exist, that may prevent the safe, transparent, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of remittances, earnings, assets and pensions of migrants to their country of origin or to any other countries, in conformity with applicable legislation and agreements, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to solve other problems that may impede such transfers;

(*j*) Recalls that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes that everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted to him or her;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting persons in vulnerable situations, and in this regard:

(*a*) Expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized crime entities and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law and contrary to international standards;

(*b*) Also expresses its concern about the high level of impunity enjoyed by traffickers and their accomplices as well as other members of organized crime entities and, in this context, the denial of rights and justice to migrants who have suffered from abuse;

(*c*) Welcomes immigration programmes, adopted by some countries, that allow migrants to integrate fully into the host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious, tolerant and respectful environment, and encourages States to consider the possibility of adopting these types of programmes;

(*d*) Calls upon States that have not already done so to provide for the protection of the human rights of women migrant workers, to promote fair labour conditions and to ensure that all women, including care workers, are legally protected against violence and exploitation;

(*e*) Encourages States to implement gender-sensitive policies and programmes for women migrant workers, to provide safe and legal channels that recognize the skills and education of women migrant workers and to facilitate their productive employment, decent work and integration into the labour force, including in the fields of education and science and technology;

(*f*) Encourages all States to develop international migration policies and programmes that include a gender perspective, in order to adopt the measures necessary to better protect women and girls against dangers and abuse during migration;

(*g*) Calls upon States to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in their policies of integration, return and family reunification;

(*h*) Encourages all States to prevent and eliminate discriminatory policies and legislation, at all levels of government, that deny migrant children access to education;

(*i*) Encourages States, while taking into account the best interests of the child as a primary consideration, to foster the successful integration of migrant children into the education system and the removal of barriers to their education in host countries and countries of origin;

(*j*) Urges States to ensure that repatriation mechanisms allow for the identification and special protection of persons in vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, and take into account, in conformity with their international obligations and commitments, the principle of the best interests of the child and family reunification;

(*k*) Urges States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[463] and supplementing protocols thereto, namely, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air[464] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[465] to implement them fully, and calls upon States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them as a matter of priority;

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[463] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[464] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the study of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on challenges and best practices in the implementation of the international framework for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of migration,[466] and invites States to take into account the conclusions and recommendations of the study when designing and implementing their migration policies;

7. *Encourages* States to protect victims of national and transnational organized crime, including kidnapping, trafficking and, in some instances, smuggling, through, where applicable, the implementation of programmes and policies that guarantee protection and access to medical, psychosocial and legal assistance;

8. *Encourages* Member States that have not already done so to enact national legislation and to take further effective measures to combat trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, recognizing that these crimes may endanger the lives of migrants or subject them to harm, servitude or exploitation, which may also include debt bondage, slavery, sexual exploitation or forced labour, and also encourages Member States to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking and smuggling;

9. *Stresses* the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation in the protection of the human rights of migrants, and therefore:

(*a*) Requests all States, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to take into account in their policies and initiatives on migration issues the global character of the migratory phenomenon and to give due consideration to international, regional and bilateral cooperation in this field, including by undertaking dialogues on migration that include countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as civil society, including migrants, with a view to addressing, in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, its causes and consequences and the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration, granting priority to the protection of the human rights of migrants;

(*b*) Encourages States to take the measures necessary to achieve policy coherence on migration at the national, regional and international levels, including by ensuring coordinated child protection policies and systems across borders that are in full compliance with international human rights law;

(*c*) Also encourages States to further strengthen their cooperation in protecting witnesses in cases of smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons;

(*d*) Calls upon the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

10. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the issue of migration and development in the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda through, inter alia, integrating a human rights perspective and mainstreaming a gender perspective, and therefore:

(*a*) Requests Member States, the United Nations system, international organizations, civil society and all relevant stakeholders, especially the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of migrants and the Global Migration Group, to ensure that the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which will take place during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly in 2013, analyses the linkage between migration and development in a balanced and comprehensive manner that includes, among others, a human rights perspective;

(*b*) Recognizes the importance of the contribution of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Chair of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, as well as key development actors, to the discussion at the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development;

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[465] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[466] A/HRC/15/29.

11. *Encourages* States, relevant international organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to continue and to enhance their dialogue, including through participation in the High-level Dialogue to be held in 2013 and other relevant international meetings, with a view to strengthening public policies aimed at promoting and respecting human rights, including those of migrants;

12. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights", as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

13. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to submit his report to the General Assembly and to engage in an interactive dialogue at its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights";

14. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur, submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session in accordance with resolution 66/172;[467]

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report an analysis of how a human rights perspective can enhance the design and implementation of international migration and development policies.

## RESOLUTION 67/173

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[468] by a recorded vote of 127 to 54, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Singapore, South Sudan, Tonga

### 67/173. Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 65/222 of 21 December 2010 and Human Rights Council resolution 20/15 of 5 July 2012, entitled "Promotion of the right to peace",[469]

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[467] A/67/299.

[468] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Grenada, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[469] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

*Recalling also* its resolution 39/11 of 12 November 1984, entitled "Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace", and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[470]

*Determined* to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Underlining*, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, its full and active support for the United Nations and for the enhancement of its role and effectiveness in strengthening international peace and security and justice and in promoting the solution of international problems, as well as the development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered,

*Emphasizing* its objective of promoting better relations among all States and contributing to setting up conditions in which their people can live in true and lasting peace, free from any threat to or attempt against their security,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to peace and security and justice and the continuing development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Rejecting* the use of violence in pursuit of political aims, and stressing that only peaceful political solutions can ensure a stable and democratic future for all people around the world,

*Reaffirming* the importance of ensuring respect for the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter and international law,

*Reaffirming also* that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

*Reaffirming further* the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[471]

*Recognizing* that peace and development are mutually reinforcing, including in the prevention of armed conflict,

*Affirming* that human rights include social, economic and cultural rights and the right to peace, a healthy environment and development, and that development is in fact the realization of those rights,

*Underlining* the fact that the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental rights, is contrary to the Charter and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation,

*Recalling* that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[472] can be fully realized,

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[470] Resolution 55/2.

[471] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[472] Resolution 217 A (III).

*Convinced* of the aim of creating conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

*Convinced also* that life without war is the primary international prerequisite for the material well-being, development and progress of countries and for the full implementation of the rights and fundamental human freedoms proclaimed by the United Nations,

*Convinced further* that international cooperation in the field of human rights contributes to creating an international environment of peace and stability,

1. *Reaffirms* that the peoples of our planet have a sacred right to peace;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the preservation of the right of peoples to peace and the promotion of its implementation constitute a fundamental obligation of all States;

3. *Stresses* that peace is a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all;

4. *Also stresses* that the deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, peace and security and stability;

5. *Emphasizes* that the preservation and promotion of peace demands that the policies of States be directed towards the elimination of the threat of war, particularly nuclear war, the renunciation of the use or threat of use of force in international relations and the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Affirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and an international system based on respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter and the promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and the right of peoples to self-determination;

7. *Urges* all States to respect and to put into practice the purposes and principles of the Charter in their relations with other States, irrespective of their political, economic or social system and of their size, geographical location or level of economic development;

8. *Reaffirms* the duty of all States, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, to use peaceful means to settle any dispute to which they are parties and the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, as a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights of everyone and all peoples;

9. *Welcomes* the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 20/15,[469] to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group with the mandate of progressively negotiating a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace;

10. *Underlines* the vital importance of education for peace as a tool to foster the realization of the right of peoples to peace, and encourages States, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

11. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

12. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question of the promotion of the right of peoples to peace at its sixty-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## RESOLUTION 67/174

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[473]

### 67/174. The right to food

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Charter of the United Nations and its importance for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

*Reaffirming also* all previous resolutions and decisions on the right to food adopted within the framework of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[474] which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her or his health and well-being, including food, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition[475] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[476] in particular Millennium Development Goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by 2015,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[477] in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

*Bearing in mind* the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,[478]

*Reaffirming* the concrete recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[479]

*Reaffirming also* the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, adopted in Rome on 16 November 2009,[480]

*Reaffirming further* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

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[473] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[474] Resolution 217 A (III).

[475] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[476] Resolution 55/2.

[477] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[478] A/57/499, annex.

[479] E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

[480] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

*Reaffirming* that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international levels, is the essential foundation that will enable States to give adequate priority to food and nutrition security and poverty eradication,

*Reiterating*, as in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Declaration of the World Food Summit, that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter and that endanger food and nutrition security,

*Convinced* that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food and nutrition security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

*Recognizing* that the complex character of the global food crisis, in which the right to adequate food is threatened to be violated on a substantial scale, is a combination of several major factors, such as the global financial and economic crisis, environmental degradation, desertification and the impacts of global climate change, as well as natural disasters and the lack in many countries of the appropriate technology, investment and capacity-building necessary to confront its impact, particularly in developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States,

*Resolved* to act to ensure that the human rights perspective is taken into account at the national, regional and international levels in measures to address the global food crisis,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pest infestations, as well as the negative impact of climate change, and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in substantial loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food and nutrition security, in particular in developing countries,

*Emphasizing* that a multisectoral approach that integrates nutrition across all sectors, including agriculture, health, water and sanitation, social protection and education, as well as a gender perspective, is critical to achieving global food and nutrition security and the realization of the right to food,

*Recalling* the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security[481] by the Committee on World Food Security at its 38th session, held on 11 May 2012, and by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its 144th session,

*Stressing* the importance of reversing the continuing decline of official development assistance devoted to agriculture, both in real terms and as a share of total official development assistance,

*Recognizing* the importance of the protection and preservation of agrobiodiversity in guaranteeing food security and the right to food for all,

*Recognizing also* the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the key United Nations agency for rural and agricultural development and its work in supporting the efforts of Member States to achieve the full realization of the right to food, including through its provision of technical assistance to developing countries in support of the implementation of national priority frameworks,

*Taking note* of the final declaration adopted at the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Porto Alegre, Brazil, on 10 March 2006,

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[481] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

*Acknowledging* the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis established by the Secretary-General, and supporting the Secretary-General in his continuing efforts in this regard, including continued engagement with Member States and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food,

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers it intolerable* that, as estimated by the United Nations Children's Fund, more than one third of the children who die every year before the age of 5 do so from hunger-related illness, that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the number of people who are chronically undernourished is about 870 million worldwide, and that an additional 1 billion people are suffering from serious malnutrition, including as a result of the global food crisis, while, according to the latter organization, the planet could produce enough food to feed everyone around the world;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that the effects of the world food crisis continue to have serious consequences for the poorest and most vulnerable people, particularly in developing countries, which have been further aggravated by the world financial and economic crisis, and at the particular effects of this crisis on many net food-importing countries, especially on least developed countries;

5. *Expresses its deep concern* that, according to the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled "The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2012", the number of hungry people in the world remains unacceptably high and 98 per cent of undernourished people in the world live in developing countries;

6. *Expresses its concern* that women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger, food and nutrition insecurity and poverty, in part as a result of gender inequality and discrimination, that in many countries, girls are twice as likely as boys to die from malnutrition and preventable childhood diseases and that it is estimated that almost twice as many women as men suffer from malnutrition;

7. *Encourages* all States to take action to address gender inequality and discrimination against women, in particular where they contribute to the malnutrition of women and girls, including measures to ensure the full and equal realization of the right to food and ensuring that women have equal access to resources, including income, land and water and their ownership, as well as full and equal access to education, science and technology, to enable them to feed themselves and their families;

8. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food to continue mainstreaming a gender perspective in the fulfilment of his mandate, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and all other United Nations bodies and mechanisms addressing the right to food and food insecurity to integrate a gender perspective into their relevant policies, programmes and activities;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure that programmes delivering safe and nutritious food are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

10. *Calls upon* all States and, if appropriate, relevant international organizations to take measures and support programmes which are aimed at combating undernutrition in mothers, in particular during pregnancy, and children and the irreversible effects of chronic undernutrition in early childhood, in particular from birth to the age of two years;

11. *Encourages* all States to take steps with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to create and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

12. *Recognizes* the advances reached through South-South cooperation in developing countries and regions in connection with food security and the development of agricultural production for the full realization of the right to food;

13. *Stresses* that improving access to productive resources and public investment in rural development are essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, including through the promotion of investments in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts;

14. *Recognizes* the critical contribution made by the fisheries sector to the realization of the right to food and to food security, and the contribution of small-scale fishers to the local food security of coastal communities;

15. *Also recognizes* that 80 per cent of hungry people live in rural areas and 50 per cent are small-scale farm-holders, and that these people are especially vulnerable to food insecurity, given the increasing cost of inputs and the fall in farm incomes; that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for poor producers; that sustainable and gender-sensitive agricultural policies are important tools for promoting land and agrarian reform, rural credit and insurance, technical assistance and other associated measures to achieve food security and rural development; and that support by States for small farmers, fishing communities and local enterprises, including through the facilitation of access of their products to national and international markets and empowerment of small producers, particularly women, in value chains, is a key element for food security and the provision of the right to food;

16. *Stresses* the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that are specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands, and in this regard calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[482]

17. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to favourably consider becoming parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[483] and to consider becoming parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture[484] as a matter of priority;

18. *Recalls* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[485] acknowledges that many indigenous organizations and representatives of indigenous peoples have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face in achieving the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

19. *Notes* the need to further examine various concepts such as, inter alia, "food sovereignty" and their relation with food security and the right to food, bearing in mind the need to avoid any negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to food for all people at all times;

20. *Requests* all States and private actors, as well as international organizations within their respective mandates, to take fully into account the need to promote the effective realization of the right to food for all, including in the ongoing negotiations in different fields;

21. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national commitment as well as international assistance, upon the request of and in cooperation with the affected countries, towards the full realization and protection of the right to food, and in particular to develop national protection mechanisms for people forced to leave their homes and land because of hunger or humanitarian emergencies affecting the enjoyment of the right to food;

22. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

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[482] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[483] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[484] Ibid., vol. 2400, No. 43345.

[485] Resolution 61/295, annex.

23. *Calls for* the early conclusion and a successful, development-oriented outcome of the Doha Round of trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization as a contribution to creating international conditions that permit the full realization of the right to food;

24. *Stresses* that all States should make all efforts to ensure that their international policies of a political and economic nature, including international trade agreements, do not have a negative impact on the right to food in other countries;

25. *Recalls* the importance of the New York Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty, and recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at identifying additional sources of financing for the fight against hunger and poverty, as well as non-communicable diseases;

26. *Recognizes* that the promises made at the World Food Summit in 1996 to halve the number of persons who are undernourished are not being fulfilled, while recognizing the efforts of Member States in this regard, and once again invites all international financial and development institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the necessary funding to realize the aim of halving by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, as well as the right to food as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[476]

27. *Reaffirms* that integrating food and nutritional support, with the goal that all people at all times will have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, is part of a comprehensive effort to improve public health, including the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases;

28. *Urges* States to give adequate priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

29. *Stresses* the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution both to the expansion and improvement of agriculture and its environmental sustainability, food production, breeding projects on diversity of crops and livestock, and institutional innovations such as community seed banks, farmer field schools and seed fairs and to the provision of humanitarian food assistance in activities related to emergency situations, for the realization of the right to food and the achievement of sustainable food security, while recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of national programmes and strategies in this regard;

30. *Also stresses* that States parties to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights should consider implementing that agreement in a manner that is supportive of food security, while being mindful of the obligation of Member States to promote and protect the right to food;

31. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to support national efforts aimed at responding rapidly to the food crises currently occurring across Africa, in particular in the Horn of Africa, and expresses its deep concern that funding shortfalls are forcing the World Food Programme to cut operations across different regions, including Southern Africa;

32. *Invites* all relevant international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to continue to promote policies and projects that have a positive impact on the right to food, to ensure that partners respect the right to food in the implementation of common projects, to support strategies of Member States aimed at the fulfilment of the right to food and to avoid any actions that could have a negative impact on the realization of the right to food;

33. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur;[486]

34. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, as extended by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 13/4 of 24 March 2010;[487]

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[486] See A/67/268.

[487] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/65/53 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur;

36. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights),[488] in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights, and is also inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both the national and the international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;

37. *Recalls* general comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant),[489] in which the Committee noted, inter alia, the importance of ensuring sustainable access to water resources for human consumption and agriculture in realization of the right to adequate food;

38. *Reaffirms* that the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[479] represent a practical tool to promote the realization of the right to food for all, contribute to the achievement of food security and thus provide an additional instrument in the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

39. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

40. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue his work, including by examining the emerging issues with regard to the realization of the right to food within his existing mandate;

41. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies, civil society actors and non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate, inter alia, through the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

42. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## RESOLUTION 67/175

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[490] by a recorded vote of 126 to 53, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea,

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[488] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex V.

[489] Ibid., *2003, Supplement No. 2* (E/2003/22), annex IV.

[490] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstaining:* Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, Samoa, Togo

## 67/175. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, including resolution 66/159 of 19 December 2011, and Human Rights Council resolutions 18/6 of 29 September 2011[491] and 21/9 of 27 September 2012,[492]

*Reaffirming* the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

*Affirming* that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter and, inter alia, with full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

*Recalling* the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

*Reaffirming* that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[493] can be fully realized,

*Reaffirming also* the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Stressing* that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social issues, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, and that in this regard the central role must be played by the United Nations, as the most universal and representative organization in the world,

*Considering* the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

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[491] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[492] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[493] Resolution 217 A (III).

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Considering* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

*Reaffirming* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

*Recognizing* that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

*Emphasizing* that democracy is not only a political concept, but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

*Recognizing* that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

*Noting with concern* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

*Reaffirming* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation at all levels,

*Underlining* the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people, and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

*Deeply concerned* that the current global economic, financial, energy and food crises, resulting from a combination of several major factors, including macroeconomic and other factors, such as environmental degradation, desertification and global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of financial resources and the technology necessary to confront their negative impact in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing States, represent a global scenario that is threatening the adequate enjoyment of all human rights and widening the gap between developed and developing countries,

*Stressing* that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures, at the global level, that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

*Stressing also* the need for adequate financing of and technology transfer to developing countries, in particular the landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including to support their efforts to adapt to climate change,

*Having listened* to the peoples of the world, and recognizing their aspirations to justice, to equality of opportunity for all, to the enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to development, to live in peace and freedom and to equal participation without discrimination in economic, social, cultural, civil and political life,

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 on institution-building of the Council and 5/2 on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, both of 18 June 2007,[494] and stressing that all mandate holders shall discharge their duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

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[494] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

*Resolved* to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to fulfil their commitment expressed in Durban, South Africa, during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance to maximize the benefits of globalization through, inter alia, the strengthening and enhancement of international cooperation to increase equality of opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development, global communications through the use of new technologies and increased intercultural exchange through the preservation and promotion of cultural diversity,[495] and reiterates that only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future based upon our common humanity and all its diversity can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable;

4. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(*a*) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(*b*) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(*c*) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(*d*) The right of all peoples to peace;

(*e*) The right to an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(*f*) International solidarity, as a right of peoples and individuals;

(*g*) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principle of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(*h*) The right to equitable participation of all, without any discrimination, in domestic and global decision-making;

(*i*) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(*j*) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order, based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(*k*) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(*l*) The right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responds effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing countries, and that promotes the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation;

(*m*) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in economic, commercial and financial international relations;

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[495] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

(*n*) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of mankind in connection to the public right of access to culture;

(*o*) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, that should be exercised multilaterally;

5. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

6. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

8. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

9. *Also reaffirms* the need to continue working urgently for the establishment of an international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations;

10. *Further reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

11. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

12. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Independent Expert;[496]

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Independent Expert;

14. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Independent Expert in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to consider responding favourably to the requests of the Independent Expert to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

15. *Requests* the Human Rights Council, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special mechanisms extended by the Council and the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

16. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

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[496] A/67/277 and Corr.1.

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations, and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

18. *Requests* the Independent Expert to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue his work;

19. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## RESOLUTION 67/176

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137),[497] by a recorded vote of 111 to 41, with 34 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Against:* Afghanistan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United States of America, Yemen, Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Belarus, Cameroon, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Fiji, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

### 67/176. Moratorium on the use of the death penalty

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[498] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[499] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[500]

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[497] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[498] Resolution 217 A (III).

[499] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[500] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 62/149 of 18 December 2007, 63/168 of 18 December 2008 and 65/206 of 21 December 2010 on the question of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, in which the General Assembly called upon States that still maintain the death penalty to establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing it,

*Welcoming* Human Rights Council decision 18/117 of 28 September 2011,[501]

*Mindful* that any miscarriage or failure of justice in the implementation of the death penalty is irreversible and irreparable,

*Convinced* that a moratorium on the use of the death penalty contributes to respect for human dignity and to the enhancement and progressive development of human rights, and considering that there is no conclusive evidence of the deterrent value of the death penalty,

*Noting* ongoing local and national debates and regional initiatives on the death penalty, as well as the readiness of an increasing number of Member States to make available to the public information on the use of the death penalty,

*Noting also* the technical cooperation among Member States in relation to moratoriums on the death penalty,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* about the continued application of the death penalty;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 65/206[502] and the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Also welcomes* the steps taken by some Member States to reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed and the decisions made by an increasing number of States, at all levels of government, to apply a moratorium on executions, followed in many cases by the abolition of the death penalty;

4. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To respect international standards that provide safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, in particular the minimum standards, as set out in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984, as well as to provide the Secretary-General with information in this regard;

(*b*) To make available relevant information with regard to their use of the death penalty, inter alia, the number of persons sentenced to death, the number of persons on death row and the number of executions carried out, which can contribute to possible informed and transparent national and international debates, including on the obligations of States pertaining to the use of the death penalty;

(*c*) To progressively restrict the use of the death penalty and not to impose capital punishment for offences committed by persons below 18 years of age and on pregnant women;

(*d*) To reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed;

(*e*) To establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty;

5. *Calls upon* States which have abolished the death penalty not to reintroduce it, and encourages them to share their experience in this regard;

6. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;[503]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its sixty-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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[501] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. III.

[502] A/67/226.

[503] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1642, No. 14668.

## RESOLUTION 67/177

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[504]

### 67/177. Missing persons

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Guided also* by the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[505] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,[506] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[507] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[508] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[508] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[509] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[510] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[511]

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 23 December 2010 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[512]

*Recalling* all previous relevant resolutions on missing persons adopted by the General Assembly, as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council,

*Noting with deep concern* that armed conflicts are continuing in various parts of the world, often resulting in serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

*Noting* that the issue of persons reported missing in connection with international or non-international armed conflicts, in particular those who are victims of serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, continues to have a negative impact on efforts to put an end to those conflicts and inflicts grievous suffering on the families of missing persons, and stressing in this regard the need to address the issue, inter alia, from a humanitarian and rule of law perspective,

*Considering* that the problem of missing persons may raise questions of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as appropriate,

*Bearing in mind* that cases of missing persons involve conduct that may constitute criminal offences, and stressing the importance of ending impunity for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law with respect to missing persons,

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[504] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Sudan, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[505] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[506] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[507] Resolution 217 A (III).

[508] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[509] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[510] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[511] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[512] Resolution 61/177, annex.

*Cognizant* that States that are parties to an armed conflict have a responsibility for countering the phenomenon of missing persons, taking all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing and determining the fate of missing persons and for recognizing their accountability as regards implementing the relevant mechanisms, policies and laws,

*Bearing in mind* the effective search for and identification of missing persons using forensic sciences, and recognizing that great technological progress has been made in this field, including DNA forensic analysis, which can significantly assist efforts to identify missing persons and to investigate violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

*Recognizing* that the establishment and effective work of competent national institutions can play a crucial role in clarifying the fate of missing persons in connection with armed conflict,

*Recognizing also* the importance of addressing the legal situation of missing persons in connection with armed conflict and supporting their family members in national policies that include a gender perspective, as appropriate,

*Recognizing further* that respect for and implementation of international humanitarian law can reduce the number of cases of missing persons in armed conflict,

*Stressing* the importance of measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, which may include enacting national legislation, producing and providing proper means of identification, the establishment of information bureaux, grave registration services and registers of deaths, and ensuring accountability in cases of the missing,

*Taking note* of the four-year plan of action for the implementation of international humanitarian law adopted by the Thirty-first International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 28 November to 1 December 2011, which, inter alia, invites States, as part of its fourth objective, to consider, in the light of the right of families to know the fate of their relatives, enacting appropriate legislation or arrangements to ensure adequate participation and representation of victims and their families as well as access to justice and protection for victims and witnesses, especially women and children, in proceedings before their courts and in other transitional justice mechanisms concerning serious violations of international humanitarian law,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on best practices in the matter of missing persons,[513]

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/210 of 21 December 2010,[514]

*Noting with appreciation* the ongoing international and regional efforts to address the question of missing persons and the initiatives undertaken by international and regional organizations in this field,

1. *Urges* States to strictly observe and to respect and ensure respect for the rules of international humanitarian law, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[505] and, where applicable, in the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977;[506]

2. *Calls upon* States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with the armed conflict, to account for persons reported missing as a result of such a situation and to ensure the effective investigation and prosecution of offences linked to missing persons, consistent with their international obligations;

3. *Reaffirms* the right of families to know the fate of their relatives reported missing in connection with armed conflicts;

4. *Also reaffirms* that each party to an armed conflict, as soon as circumstances permit and, at the latest, from the end of active hostilities, shall search for the persons who have been reported missing by an adverse party;

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[513] A/HRC/16/70.

[514] A/67/267 and Corr.1.

5. *Calls upon* States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all necessary measures, in a timely manner, to determine the identity and fate of persons reported missing in connection with the armed conflict and, to the greatest extent possible, to provide their family members, through appropriate channels, with all relevant information that they have on their fate, including their whereabouts or, if they are dead, the circumstances and cause of their death;

6. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the need for appropriate means of identification and for the collection, protection and management of data on missing persons and unidentified remains according to international and national legal norms and standards, and urges States to cooperate with each other and with other concerned actors working in this area, inter alia, by providing all relevant and appropriate information related to missing persons;

7. *Requests* States to pay the utmost attention to cases of children reported missing in connection with armed conflicts and to take appropriate measures to search for and identify those children and to reunite them with their families;

8. *Invites* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross in establishing the fate of missing persons and to adopt a comprehensive approach to this issue, including all such legal and practical measures and coordination mechanisms as may be necessary, based on humanitarian considerations only;

9. *Urges* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate, consistent with their international obligations, in order to effectively solve cases of missing persons, including by providing mutual assistance in terms of information-sharing, victim assistance, location and identification of missing persons and recovery, identification and return of human remains;

10. *Urges* States, and encourages intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to take all necessary measures at the national, regional and international levels to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflicts and to provide appropriate assistance as requested by the concerned States, and welcomes in this regard the establishment and efforts of commissions and working groups on missing persons;

11. *Calls upon* States, without prejudice to their efforts to determine the fate of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflicts, to take appropriate steps with regard to the legal situation of missing persons and the needs and accompaniment of their family members, in such fields as social welfare, psychological and psychosocial support, financial matters, family law and property rights;

12. *Invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to further their engagement in order to follow forensic best practices as they apply to preventing and resolving cases of missing persons in connection with armed conflict;

13. *Also invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to ensure the development and proper management of archives pertaining to missing persons and unidentified remains in connection with armed conflict, as well as access to those archives in accordance with relevant applicable laws and regulations;

14. *Stresses* the need to address the issue of missing persons as a part of peace and peacebuilding processes, with reference to all justice and rule of law mechanisms, including the judiciary, parliamentary commissions and truth-finding mechanisms, on the basis of transparency, accountability and public involvement and participation;

15. *Invites* relevant human rights mechanisms and procedures, as appropriate, to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflicts in their forthcoming reports to the General Assembly;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Human Rights Council at its relevant session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, including relevant recommendations;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and international humanitarian organizations;

18. *Decides* to consider the question at its sixty-ninth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/178

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[515]

### 67/178. Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the commitment made by all States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to, inter alia, religion or belief,

*Reaffirming also* the obligation of States to prohibit discrimination and violence on the basis of religion or belief and to implement measures to guarantee the equal and effective protection of the law,

*Reaffirming further* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Reaffirming* that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[516] provides, inter alia, that everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching,

*Reaffirming also* the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information can play in strengthening democracy and combating religious intolerance, and reaffirming further that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression carries with it special duties and responsibilities, in accordance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

*Expressing deep concern* at those acts that advocate religious hatred and thereby undermine the spirit of tolerance,

*Reaffirming* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

*Reaffirming also* that violence can never be an acceptable response to acts of intolerance on the basis of religion or belief,

*Welcoming* Human Rights Council resolutions 16/18 of 24 March 2011[517] and 19/25 of 23 March 2012[518] and General Assembly resolution 66/167 of 19 December 2011,

*Deeply concerned* about incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against persons based on their religion or belief in all regions of the world,

*Deploring* any advocacy of discrimination or violence on the basis of religion or belief,

*Strongly deploring* all acts of violence against persons on the basis of their religion or belief, as well as any such acts directed against their homes, businesses, properties, schools, cultural centres or places of worship,

*Strongly deploring*, further, all attacks on and in religious places, sites and shrines in violation of international law, in particular human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

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[515] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Brazil, Dominican Republic, New Zealand, Thailand, United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and Uruguay.

[516] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[517] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[518] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

*Concerned* about actions that wilfully exploit tensions or target individuals on the basis of their religion or belief,

*Expressing deep concern* at the instances of intolerance, discrimination and acts of violence occurring in the world, including cases motivated by discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities, in addition to the negative projection of the followers of religions and the enforcement of measures that specifically discriminate against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

*Expressing concern* at the growing manifestations of intolerance based on religion or belief that can generate hatred and violence among individuals from and within different nations, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of respect for religious and cultural diversity, as well as interfaith and intercultural dialogue aimed at promoting a culture of tolerance and respect among individuals, societies and nations,

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of people of all religions or beliefs to humanity and the contribution that dialogue among religious groups can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Underlining* the fact that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

*Underlining also* the importance of raising awareness about different cultures and religions or beliefs and of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for religious and cultural diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining further the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

*Recognizing* that working together to enhance the implementation of existing legal regimes that protect individuals against discrimination and hate crimes, increase interfaith and intercultural efforts and expand human rights education is an important first step in combating incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against individuals on the basis of religion or belief,

*Welcoming* the inauguration of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, established on the basis of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[519] and acknowledging the important role that the Centre is expected to play as a platform for the enhancement of interreligious and intercultural dialogue,

*Welcoming also*, in this regard, all international, regional and national initiatives aimed at promoting interreligious, intercultural and interfaith harmony and combating discrimination against individuals on the basis of religion or belief, including the launching of the Istanbul Process, and noting the recent initiative of the chairmanship of Albania of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe under the theme "United in diversity" and the holding of five regional workshops by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Austria, Chile, Kenya, Morocco and Thailand on related issues,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on steps taken by States to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief;[520]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the continued serious instances of derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, as well as programmes and agendas pursued by extremist individuals, organizations and groups aimed at creating and perpetuating negative stereotypes about religious groups, in particular when condoned by Governments;

3. *Expresses concern* that the number of incidents of religious intolerance, discrimination and related violence, as well as of negative stereotyping of individuals on the basis of religion or belief, continues to rise around

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[519] Resolution 217 A (III).

[520] A/67/296.

the world, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, condemns, in this context, any advocacy of religious hatred against individuals that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and urges States to take effective measures, as set forth in the present resolution and consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, to address and combat such incidents;

4. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

5. *Recognizes* that the open public debate of ideas, as well as interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national and international levels can be among the best protections against religious intolerance and can play a positive role in strengthening democracy and combating religious hatred, and expresses its conviction that a continuing dialogue on these issues can help to overcome existing misperceptions;

6. *Also recognizes* the strong need for global awareness about the possible serious implications of incitement to discrimination and violence, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and urges all Member States to make renewed efforts to develop educational systems that promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms that enhance tolerance for religious and cultural diversity, which is fundamental to promoting tolerant, peaceful and harmonious multicultural societies;

7. *Calls upon* all States to take the following actions, as called for by the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, to foster a domestic environment of religious tolerance, peace and respect by:

(*a*) Encouraging the creation of collaborative networks to build mutual understanding, promoting dialogue and inspiring constructive action towards shared policy goals and the pursuit of tangible outcomes, such as servicing projects in the fields of education, health, conflict prevention, employment, integration and media education;

(*b*) Creating an appropriate mechanism within Governments to, inter alia, identify and address potential areas of tension between members of different religious communities, and assisting with conflict prevention and mediation;

(*c*) Encouraging the training of Government officials in effective outreach strategies;

(*d*) Encouraging the efforts of leaders to discuss within their communities the causes of discrimination, and developing strategies to counter those causes;

(*e*) Speaking out against intolerance, including advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence;

(*f*) Adopting measures to criminalize incitement to imminent violence based on religion or belief;

(*g*) Understanding the need to combat denigration and the negative religious stereotyping of persons, as well as incitement to religious hatred, by strategizing and harmonizing actions at the local, national, regional and international levels through, inter alia, education and awareness-raising;

(*h*) Recognizing that the open, constructive and respectful debate of ideas, as well as interfaith and intercultural dialogue at the local, national, regional and international levels, can play a positive role in combating religious hatred, incitement and violence;

8. *Also calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To take effective measures to ensure that public functionaries, in the conduct of their public duties, do not discriminate against an individual on the basis of religion or belief;

(*b*) To foster religious freedom and pluralism by promoting the ability of members of all religious communities to manifest their religion and to contribute openly and on an equal footing to society;

(*c*) To encourage the representation and meaningful participation of individuals, irrespective of their religion or belief, in all sectors of society;

(*d*) To make a strong effort to counter religious profiling, which is understood to be the invidious use of religion as a criterion in conducting questioning, searches and other law enforcement investigative procedures;

9. *Further calls upon* all States to adopt measures and policies to promote full respect for and protection of places of worship and religious sites, cemeteries and shrines, and to take protective measures in cases where they are vulnerable to vandalism or destruction;

10. *Calls for* strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs;

11. *Encourages* all States to consider providing updates on efforts made in this regard as part of ongoing reporting to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to include those updates in her reports to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report that includes information provided by the High Commissioner on steps taken by States to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief, as set forth in the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/179

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[521]

### 67/179. Freedom of religion or belief

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

*Recalling also* article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[522] article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[523] and other relevant human rights provisions,

*Recalling further* its previous resolutions on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, including resolution 66/168 of 19 December 2011, and Human Rights Council resolution 19/8 of 22 March 2012,[524]

*Recognizing* the important work carried out by the Human Rights Committee in providing guidance with respect to the scope of freedom of religion or belief,

*Considering* that religion or belief, for those who profess either, is one of the fundamental elements in their conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief should be fully respected and guaranteed,

*Reaffirming* that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or not to have, or to adopt, a religion or belief of one's own choice, and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance,

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[521] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[522] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[523] Resolution 217 A (III).

[524] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

*Deeply concerned* at continuing acts of intolerance and violence based on religion or belief against individuals and members of religious communities and religious minorities around the world and at the limited progress that has been made in the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, and believing that further intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as also noted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, as well as at the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009,

*Concerned* that official authorities sometimes tolerate or encourage acts of violence, or credible threats of violence, against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities,

*Concerned also* at the increasing number of laws and regulations that limit the freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and at the implementation of existing laws in a discriminatory manner,

*Convinced* of the need to address the rise in various parts of the world of religious extremism that affects the rights of individuals, the situations of violence and discrimination that affect many women and other individuals on the basis or in the name of religion or belief or in accordance with cultural and traditional practices and the misuse of religion or belief for ends inconsistent with the principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and in other relevant instruments of the United Nations,

*Seriously concerned* about all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines in violation of international law, in particular human rights and humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

*Emphasizing* that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

*Underlining* the importance of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of, and its respect for, diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Strongly condemns* all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, as well as violations of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

2. *Stresses* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief applies equally to all persons, regardless of their religion or belief and without any discrimination as to their equal protection by the law;

3. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, are non-discriminatory and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

4. *Also emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stresses further the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief;

5. *Recognizes with deep concern* the overall rise in instances of intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions or beliefs;

6. *Strongly condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

7. *Expresses concern* at the persistence of institutionalized social intolerance and discrimination practised against many on the grounds of religion or belief, and emphasizes that legal procedures pertaining to religious or belief-based groups and places of worship are not a prerequisite for the exercise of the right to manifest one's

religion or belief and that such procedures, when legally required at the national or local level, should be non-discriminatory in order to contribute to the effective protection of the right of all persons to practise their religion or belief, either individually or in community with others and in public or private;

8. *Recognizes with concern* the situation of persons in vulnerable situations, including persons deprived of their liberty, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, children, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and migrants, as regards their ability to freely exercise their right to freedom of religion or belief;

9. *Emphasizes* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence against persons belonging to religious minorities, regardless of the perpetrator, and that failure to do so may constitute a human rights violation;

10. *Also emphasizes* that no religion should be equated with terrorism, as this may have adverse consequences on the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious communities concerned;

11. *Deplores* the continued existence of instances of religious intolerance, as well as emerging obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief, inter alia:

(*a*) Instances of intolerance and violence directed against members of many religious minorities and other communities in various parts of the world;

(*b*) Incidents of religious hatred, discrimination, intolerance and violence, which may be manifested by the derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief;

(*c*) Attacks on or destruction of religious places, sites and shrines in violation of international law, in particular human rights and humanitarian law, as they have more than material significance for the dignity and lives of members of communities holding spiritual or religious beliefs;

(*d*) Instances, both in law and practice, that constitute violations of the fundamental right to freedom of religion or belief, including of the individual right to publicly express one's spiritual and religious beliefs, taking into account the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[522] as well as other international instruments;

(*e*) Constitutional and legislative systems that fail to provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction;

12. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to this end:

(*a*) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction, inter alia, by providing access to justice and effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief or the right to freely practise one's religion, including the right to change one's religion or belief, is violated;

(*b*) To ensure that existing legislation is not implemented in a discriminatory manner or does not result in discrimination based on religion or belief, that no one within their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty and security of person because of religion or belief and that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(*c*) To end violations of the human rights of women and to devote particular attention to abolishing practices and legislation that discriminate against women, including in the exercise of their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

(*d*) To ensure that no one is discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion or belief when accessing, inter alia, education, medical care, employment, humanitarian assistance or social benefits and to ensure that everyone has the right and the opportunity to have access, on general terms of equality, to public services in their country, without any discrimination on the basis of religion or belief;

(*e*) To review, whenever relevant, existing registration practices in order to ensure that such practices do not limit the right of all persons to manifest their religion or belief, either alone or in community with others and in public or private;

(*f*) To ensure that no official documents are withheld from the individual on the grounds of religion or belief and that everyone has the right to refrain from disclosing information concerning their religious affiliation in such documents against their will;

(*g*) To ensure, in particular, the right of all persons to worship, assemble or teach in connection with a religion or belief and their right to establish and maintain places for these purposes, and the right of all persons to seek, receive and impart information and ideas in these areas;

(*h*) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all persons and members of groups to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(*i*) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies, and personnel of detention facilities, the military and educators, in the course of fulfilling their official duties, respect freedom of religion or belief and do not discriminate for reasons based on religion or belief, and that all necessary and appropriate awareness-raising, education or training is provided;

(*j*) To take all necessary and appropriate action, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to combat hatred, discrimination, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, as well as incitement to hostility and violence, with particular regard to members of religious minorities in all parts of the world;

(*k*) To promote, through education and other means, mutual understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging, in the society at large, a wider knowledge of different religions and beliefs and of the history, traditions, languages and cultures of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;

(*l*) To prevent any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religion or belief that impairs the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis and to detect signs of intolerance that may lead to discrimination based on religion or belief;

13. *Welcomes and encourages* initiatives by the media to promote tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief;

14. *Stresses* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue in all its forms, including among and within religions or beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding, and welcomes different initiatives in this regard, including the Alliance of Civilizations initiative and the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

15. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, to promote the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[525] and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief, in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution and in promoting religious tolerance;

16. *Recommends* that States, the United Nations and other actors, including non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, in their efforts to promote freedom of religion or belief, ensure the widest possible dissemination of the text of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, in as many different languages as possible, and promote its implementation;

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[525] Resolution 36/55.

17. *Welcomes* the work and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on freedom of religion or belief;[526]

18. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to respond favourably to his requests to visit their countries and to provide all information and follow-up necessary for the effective fulfilment of his mandate;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the resources necessary to fully discharge his mandate;

20. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

21. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## RESOLUTION 67/180

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[527]

### 67/180. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 61/177 of 20 December 2006, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/133 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as a body of principles for all States,

*Recalling also* its resolution 66/160 of 19 December 2011, as well as relevant resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council, including resolution 21/4 of 27 September 2012,[528] in which the Council took note of the report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances[529] and the recommendations contained therein,

*Recalling further* that no exceptional circumstance whatsoever may be invoked as a justification for enforced disappearance,

*Recalling* that no one shall be held in secret detention,

*Deeply concerned*, in particular, by the increase in enforced or involuntary disappearances in various regions of the world, including arrest, detention and abduction, when these are part of or amount to enforced disappearances, and by the growing number of reports concerning harassment, ill-treatment and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared,

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[526] See A/67/303.

[527] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

[528] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[529] A/HRC/19/58/Rev.1.

*Recalling* that the Convention sets out the right of victims to know the truth regarding the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the progress and results of the investigation and the fate of the disappeared person, and sets forth State party obligations to take appropriate measures in this regard,

*Acknowledging* that acts of enforced disappearance are recognized in the Convention as crimes against humanity, in certain circumstances,

*Acknowledging also* the valuable work of the International Committee of the Red Cross in promoting compliance with international humanitarian law in this field,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance[530] on 23 December 2010, and recognizes that its implementation will be a significant contribution to ending impunity and to promoting and protecting all human rights for all;

2. *Also welcomes* the fact that 91 States have signed the Convention and 37 have ratified or acceded to it, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, as well as to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention regarding the Committee on Enforced Disappearances;

3. *Further welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[531]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue their intensive efforts to assist States in becoming parties to the Convention, with a view to achieving universal adherence;

5. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, to continue making efforts to disseminate information on the Convention, to promote understanding of it and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under this instrument;

6. *Welcomes* the work achieved by the Committee during its first three sessions, and encourages all States parties to the Convention to support and promote the work of the Committee and to implement its recommendations;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance[532] as a body of principles for all States designed to punish enforced disappearances, to prevent their commission and to help victims of such acts and their families to seek fair, prompt and adequate reparation;

8. *Notes* that 2012 marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration and urges all States to promote and to give full effect to it;

9. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Working Group and the Committee, within the framework of their respective mandates;

10. *Takes note with interest* of all the general comments of the Working Group, including the most recent one on the right to recognition as a person before the law in the context of enforced disappearances,[533] which are aimed at helping States to apply the Declaration in a way that is most conducive to the protection of all persons from enforced disappearances;

11. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee and the Chair of the Working Group to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session under the item on the promotion and protection of human rights;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the status of the Convention and the implementation of the present resolution.

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[530] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[531] A/67/271.

[532] Resolution 47/133.

[533] A/HRC/19/58/Rev.1, sect. II.H.

## RESOLUTION 67/181

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.3 and Corr.1, para. 29)[534]

### 67/181. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* that States Members of the United Nations have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

*Mindful* that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[535] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[535] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[536] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[537]

*Acknowledging* the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the universal periodic review process, expressing serious concern at the continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to articulate its position as to which recommendations included in the outcome report of its universal periodic review,[538] adopted in March 2010, enjoy its support, and regretting the continuing lack of action by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the recommendations contained in the report,

*Recalling* the concluding observations of the treaty-monitoring bodies under the four treaties to which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party,

*Noting with appreciation* the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country, and the collaboration established with the United Nations Children's Fund in order to improve the quality of education for children,

*Noting* the decision on the resumption, on a modest scale, of the activities of the United Nations Development Programme in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and encouraging the engagement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the international community to ensure that the programmes benefit the persons in need of assistance,

*Noting also* the cooperation established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the purpose of conducting a rapid crop and food security assessment and national nutritional survey in the country, as well as the letter of understanding signed with the World Food Programme, recognizing limited improvements in access by the World Food Programme, and emphasizing the importance of providing further access to all United Nations entities,

*Recalling* its resolutions 60/173 of 16 December 2005, 61/174 of 19 December 2006, 62/167 of 18 December 2007, 63/190 of 18 December 2008, 64/175 of 18 December 2009, 65/225 of 21 December 2010 and 66/174 of

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[534] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Vanuatu.

[535] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[536] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[537] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[538] A/HRC/13/13.

19 December 2011, Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2003/10 of 16 April 2003,[539] 2004/13 of 15 April 2004[540] and 2005/11 of 14 April 2005,[541] Human Rights Council decision 1/102 of 30 June 2006[542] and Council resolutions 7/15 of 27 March 2008,[543] 10/16 of 26 March 2009,[544] 13/14 of 25 March 2010,[545] 16/8 of 24 March 2011[546] and 19/13 of 22 March 2012,[547] and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

*Taking note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[548] regretting that he still has not been allowed to visit the country and that he received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and taking note also of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution 66/174,[549]

*Noting* the importance of the inter-Korean dialogue, which could contribute to the improvement of the human rights and humanitarian situation in the country,

*Noting with regret* that the reunion of separated families across the border, which is an urgent humanitarian concern of the entire Korean people, has been halted, and hoping that it will be resumed as early as possible and that necessary arrangements for further reunions on a larger scale and a regular basis will be made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and members of the Korean diaspora,

*Deeply concerned* at the significant persistent deterioration of the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea despite the succession of leadership,

1. *Expresses its very serious concern* at:

(*a*) The persistence of continuing reports of systematic, widespread and grave violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention, public executions, extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; collective punishments extending up to three generations; and the extensive use of forced labour;

(ii) The existence of a large number of prison camps, where serious violations of human rights are perpetrated;

(iii) Limitations imposed on every person who wishes to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including the punishment of those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families, as well as punishment of persons who are returned;

(iv) The situation of refugees and asylum seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and sanctions imposed on citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or the death penalty, and in this regard strongly urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, to treat those who seek refuge humanely and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to protecting the human rights of those who seek refuge, and once again urges States parties to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[550] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[551] in relation to refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;

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[539] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[540] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[541] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[542] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/61/53), chap. II, sect. B.

[543] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[544] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[545] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/65/53 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[546] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[547] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[548] A/67/370.

[549] A/67/362.

(v) All-pervasive and severe restrictions on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, the right to privacy and equal access to information, by such means as the persecution of individuals exercising their freedom of opinion and expression, and their families, and the right of everyone to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, of his or her country;

(vi) The violations of economic, social and cultural rights, which have led to severe malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in particular for persons belonging to particularly exposed groups, inter alia, women, children and the elderly;

(vii) Continuing violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, in particular the creation of internal conditions that force women to leave the country and risk falling victim to trafficking for the purpose of prostitution or forced marriage and the subjection of women to human smuggling, forced abortions, gender-based discrimination, including in the economic sphere, and gender-based violence and continuing impunity for such violence;

(viii) Continuing reports of violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children, in particular the continued lack of access to basic economic, social and cultural rights for many children, and in this regard notes the particularly vulnerable situation faced by, inter alia, returned or repatriated children, street children, children with disabilities, children whose parents are detained, children living in detention or in institutions and children in conflict with the law;

(ix) Continuing reports of violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially in the use of collective camps and of coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children, while acknowledging that there has been some minor progress for persons with disabilities;

(x) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[535] and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[536]

(*b*) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to recognize the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or to extend cooperation to him, despite the renewal of the mandate by the Human Rights Council in its resolutions 7/15,[543] 10/16,[544] 13/14,[545] 16/8[546] and 19/13;[547]

(*c*) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to articulate which recommendations enjoyed its support following its universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council or to express its commitment to their implementation, and expresses its serious concern at the lack of actions taken to date to implement the recommendations contained in the final outcome;[538]

2. *Underscores its very serious concern* at unresolved questions of international concern relating to abductions in the form of enforced disappearance, which violates the human rights of nationals of other sovereign countries, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea urgently to resolve these questions, including through existing channels, in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the immediate return of abductees;

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[550] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[551] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

3. *Expresses its very deep concern* at the precarious humanitarian situation, including a serious deterioration in the availability of and access to food, in the country, partly as a result of frequent natural disasters, compounded by structural weaknesses in agricultural production resulting in significant shortages of food, and the increasing State restrictions on the cultivation and trade in foodstuffs, as well as the prevalence of chronic and acute malnutrition, particularly among the most vulnerable groups, pregnant women, infants and children and the elderly, which, despite some progress, continues to affect the physical and mental development of a significant proportion of children, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action, cooperating where necessary with international donor agencies and in accordance with international standards for monitoring humanitarian assistance;

4. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur for the activities undertaken so far and for his continued efforts in the conduct of his mandate despite the denial of access;

5. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(*a*) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights emphasized above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and the recommendations addressed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the Human Rights Council in the context of the universal periodic review and the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

(*b*) To protect its inhabitants, address the issue of impunity and ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights are brought to justice before an independent judiciary;

(*c*) To tackle the root causes leading to refugee outflows and prosecute those who exploit refugees by human smuggling, trafficking and extortion, while not criminalizing the victims, and to ensure that citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are able to return in safety and dignity, are humanely treated and are not subjected to any kind of punishment;

(*d*) To extend its full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur, including by granting him full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other United Nations human rights mechanisms so that a full needs assessment of the human rights situation may be made;

(*e*) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, as pursued by the High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country, and strive to implement the recommendations made in the universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council;

(*f*) To engage in cooperation with the International Labour Organization;

(*g*) To continue and reinforce its cooperation with United Nations humanitarian agencies;

(*h*) To ensure full, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid and take measures to allow humanitarian agencies to secure its impartial delivery to all parts of the country on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, as it pledged to do, and to ensure access to adequate food and implement more effective food security policies, including through sustainable agriculture, sound food production distribution measures and by allocating more funds to the food sector, and to ensure adequate monitoring of humanitarian assistance;

(*i*) To improve cooperation with the United Nations country team and development agencies so that they can directly contribute to improving the living conditions of the civilian population, including accelerating progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in accordance with international monitoring and evaluation procedures;

(*j*) To consider ratifying and acceding to remaining international human rights treaties, which would enable a dialogue with the human rights treaty bodies;

6. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its sixty-eighth session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and requests the Special Rapporteur to continue to report his findings and recommendations.

## RESOLUTION 67/182

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.3 and Corr.1, para. 29),[552] by a recorded vote of 86 to 32, with 65 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

*Against:* Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Yemen, Zambia

### 67/182. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[553] the International Covenants on Human Rights[554] and other international human rights instruments,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 66/175 of 19 December 2011,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 66/175,[555] in which he notes that he is deeply troubled by the fact that human rights violations continue in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran[556] submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 16/9 of 24 March 2011,[557] which provides a deeply troubling picture of the overall human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran and catalogues reports of a wide range of human rights violations, many of them systematic;

2. *Expresses deep concern* at serious ongoing and recurring human rights violations in the Islamic Republic of Iran relating to, inter alia:

(*a*) Torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including flogging and amputations;

(*b*) The continuing alarming high frequency of the carrying-out of the death penalty in the absence of internationally recognized safeguards, including an increase in the number of public executions, notwithstanding the issuance of a circular by the former head of the judiciary prohibiting public executions, and secret group executions, as well as reports of executions undertaken without the notification of the prisoner's family members or legal counsel;

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[552] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[553] Resolution 217 A (III).

[554] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[555] A/67/327.

[556] A/67/369.

[557] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

(*c*) The failure to abolish the execution of minors and persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18, in violation of the obligations of the Islamic Republic of Iran under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[558] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[554]

(*d*) The imposition of the death penalty for crimes that lack a precise and explicit definition, including *moharebeh* (enmity against God), and/or for crimes that do not qualify as the most serious crimes, in violation of international law;

(*e*) The practice of suspension strangulation as a method of execution, and the fact that persons in prison continue to face sentences of execution by stoning, notwithstanding the issuance of a circular by the former head of the judiciary prohibiting stoning;

(*f*) Ongoing, systematic, widespread and serious restrictions on freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including through efforts to block or filter Internet content, restrict access to foreign e-mail services and a variety of websites, jam international satellite transmission into the Islamic Republic of Iran, censor or close newspapers, magazines and other publications, and cut access to communications and information;

(*g*) The increasing and systematic targeting of human rights defenders, including, but not restricted to, lawyers, journalists, including intimidation of families of independent journalists from Persian-speaking media, and other media representatives, Internet providers, bloggers and netizens, who endure intimidation, interrogation, arrest, arbitrary detention, long-term exile and/or harsh sentences, including death sentences, as a result of their activities, and noting in particular the upholding of prison sentences against staff members of the Defenders of Human Rights Centre;

(*h*) Pervasive gender inequality and violence against women, a continued crackdown on women's human rights defenders, arrests, violent repression and sentencing of women exercising their right to peaceful assembly, and increased discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice, including by limiting access to higher education, including the closure of 77 fields of study to women by 36 universities;

(*i*) Continued discrimination and other human rights violations, at times amounting to persecution, against persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, including Arabs, Azeris, Baluchis and Kurds and their defenders, and noting in particular reports of the violent suppression and detention of ethnic Arabs and Azeris, the violent repression of environmental protests in Azeri territory and the high rate of executions of persons belonging to minority groups, including the recent secret group execution of members of the Ahwazi Arab minority;

(*j*) Increased persecution and human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized religious minorities, including Christians, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims and Zoroastrians and their defenders, and noting in particular the widespread arrest and detention of Sufi Muslims and evangelical Christians, including the continued detention of Christian pastors;

(*k*) Increased persecution and human rights violations against persons belonging to unrecognized religious minorities, particularly members of the Baha'i faith and their defenders, including escalating attacks, an increase in the number of arrests and detentions, the restriction of access to higher education on the basis of religion, the sentencing of 12 Baha'is associated with Baha'i educational institutions to lengthy prison terms, the continued denial of access to employment in the public sector, additional restrictions on participation in the private sector and the de facto criminalization of membership in the Baha'i faith;

(*l*) The continued and sustained house arrest of leading opposition figures from the 2009 presidential elections, as well as restrictions on their supporters and family members, including through harassment and intimidation;

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[558] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

(*m*) Ongoing severe limitations and restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, including arbitrary arrest, indefinite detention and lengthy jail sentences, for those exercising this right, and restrictions on the building of, as well as attacks against, places of worship and burial;

(*n*) Persistent failure to uphold due process of law, and violations of the rights of detainees, including the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance, the lack of access of detainees to legal representation of their choice, the refusal to consider granting bail to detainees, the poor conditions of prisons, including the serious overcrowding and poor level of sanitation, and the denial of access to medical treatment, as well as persistent reports of detainees dying in custody, being subjected to torture, rape and other forms of sexual violence, harsh interrogation techniques and the use of pressure exerted upon their relatives and dependants, including through arrest, to obtain false confessions that are then used at trials;

(*o*) Continuing arbitrary or unlawful interference by State authorities with the privacy of individuals, in particular in relation to private homes, and with their correspondence, including telephone and e-mail communications, in violation of international law;

3. *Expresses particular concern* at the failure of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to conduct comprehensive investigations or to launch an accountability process in response to cases of serious human rights violations involving the Iranian judiciary and security agencies and to the widespread violations at Kahrizak prison and elsewhere during the period following the presidential elections of 2009, and reiterates its call upon the Government to launch a process of credible, independent and impartial investigations into reports of human rights violations and to end impunity for such violations;

4. *Expresses concern* over the restrictions placed on candidates in the 2012 parliamentary elections, in particular the restrictions on the eligibility and activities of candidates;

5. *Notes* the steps taken to release and pardon a number of political prisoners and prisoners of conscience, and continues to call upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to immediately and unconditionally release all those who have been arbitrarily arrested and detained for simply exercising their right to peaceful assembly and participating in peaceful protests about political, economic, environmental or other issues, including the conduct and results of the 2009 presidential elections;

6. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure free, fair, transparent and inclusive presidential elections in 2013 that reflect the will of the people and are consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[553] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and all other relevant human rights instruments to which the State is a party, and calls upon the Government to allow independent observation, including by civil society and candidates, of the electoral process and to allow independent local and international experts and journalists to freely observe and report on the elections as well as subsequent political developments;

7. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations, in law and in practice, in particular:

(*a*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, amputations, flogging, blinding and other forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) To abolish, in law and in practice, public executions and other executions carried out in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards;

(*c*) To further revisit the revised Islamic Penal Code to make it consistent with its obligation, under article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to abolish executions of minors and persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18;

(*d*) To abolish the use of stoning and suspension strangulation as methods of execution;

(*e*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls;

(*f*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, recognized or otherwise;

(*g*) To eliminate discrimination against, and exclusion of, women and members of certain groups, including members of the Baloch community and members of the Baha'i faith, regarding access to higher education, and to eliminate the criminalization of efforts to provide higher education to Baha'i youth denied access to Iranian universities;

(*h*) To implement, inter alia, the 1996 report of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance,[559] in which he recommended ways in which the Islamic Republic of Iran could emancipate the Baha'i community, to release the seven Baha'i leaders held since 2008 and to accord all Baha'is, including those imprisoned because of their beliefs, the due process of law and the rights that they are constitutionally guaranteed;

(*i*) To end the harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents, human rights defenders, labour leaders, students, academics, filmmakers, journalists, other media representatives, bloggers, clerics, artists and lawyers, including by releasing persons detained arbitrarily or on the basis of their political views;

(*j*) To end restrictions placed on Internet users and Internet providers that violate the rights to freedom of expression, association and privacy;

(*k*) To end restrictions on the press and media representatives, including the selective jamming of satellite broadcasts;

(*l*) To uphold, in law and in practice, procedural guarantees to ensure due process of law;

8. *Also calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to strengthen its national human rights institutions in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles);[560]

9. *Notes* the recent engagement by the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Human Rights Committee, including the submission of its first periodic report in more than 17 years, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to consider acting upon the concluding observations adopted by the Committee;[561]

10. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to effectively implement its obligations under those international human rights treaties to which it is already a party, to withdraw any reservations it may have made upon signature or ratification of other international human rights instruments where such reservations are overly general, imprecise or could be considered incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty, to consider acting upon the concluding observations concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted by the bodies of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party, and to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights treaties to which it is not already a party;

11. *Urges* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran and other international human rights mechanisms, including by allowing the Special Rapporteur unfettered access to the country to carry out his mandate;

12. *Encourages* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue exploring cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

13. *Expresses deep concern* that, despite the standing invitation issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran to all thematic special procedures mandate holders, it has not fulfilled any requests from those special mechanisms to visit the country in seven years and has left unanswered the vast majority of the numerous and repeated communications from those special mechanisms, and strongly urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to fully cooperate with the special mechanisms, including facilitating their visits to its territory, so that credible and independent investigations of all allegations of human rights violations can be conducted;

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[559] E/CN.4/1996/95/Add.2.

[560] Resolution 48/134, annex.

[561] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/67/40), vol. I, para. 107.

14. *Strongly encourages* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to seriously consider all of the recommendations put forward at its universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council,[562] with the full and genuine participation of civil society and other stakeholders;

15. *Strongly encourages* the thematic special procedures mandate holders to pay particular attention to, with a view to investigating and reporting on, the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in particular the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Rapporteur on the right to education, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, the Independent Expert on minority issues, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and the Working Group on Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-second session;

17. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## RESOLUTION 67/183

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.3 and Corr.1, para. 29),[563] by a recorded vote of 135 to 12, with 36 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:* Angola, Armenia, Bhutan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, Eritrea, Fiji, Guyana, India, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mali, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam

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[562] See A/HRC/14/12.

[563] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu and Yemen.

## 67/183. Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[564] and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,[565]

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011, 66/253 A of 16 February 2012 and 66/253 B of 3 August 2012, Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,[566] S-17/1 of 23 August 2011,[566] S-18/1 of 2 December 2011,[567] 19/1 of 1 March 2012,[568] 19/22 of 23 March 2012,[568] S-19/1 of 1 June 2012,[569] 20/22 of 6 July 2012[570] and 21/26 of 28 September 2012[571] and Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012 and 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012,

*Recalling also* all resolutions of the League of Arab States relating to the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular resolution 7523 of 5 September 2012, in which the League expressed its strong condemnation of the continuing violence, murder and heinous crimes committed by the Syrian authorities and the affiliated *shabbiha* militias against Syrian civilians and the use of heavy weapons, including tanks, artillery and warplanes in the bombardment of populated neighbourhoods and villages, as well as arbitrary executions and enforced disappearances, in flagrant violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and called upon the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to cease immediately and completely all forms of killing and violence against the Syrian people,

*Welcoming* the relevant decisions of the League of Arab States on the developments in respect of the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic,

*Welcoming also* Organization of Islamic Cooperation resolution 2/4-EX (IS) of 15 August 2012 on the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, in which the Organization called for the immediate implementation of the transitional plan and the development of a peaceful mechanism that would allow the building of a new Syrian State based on pluralism and a democratic and civilian system, where there would be equality on the basis of law, citizenship and fundamental freedoms,

*Reaffirming its strong commitment* to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and to the principles of the Charter,

*Strongly condemning* the shelling as well as the shooting by the Syrian armed forces into neighbouring countries, which led to casualties and injuries of the civilians of those countries as well as of Syrian refugees, and underlining that such incidents violated international law and highlighted the grave impact of the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic on the security of its neighbours and on regional peace and stability,

*Expressing grave concern* at the escalation of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and the continued use of heavy weapons and aerial bombardments by the Syrian authorities against the Syrian population, and the failure of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to protect its population,

*Taking note with concern* of the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict,[572] which indicates the occurrence of grave violations against children in the Syrian Arab Republic, that children were among the victims of military operations carried out by Government forces, including the Syrian armed forces, intelligence forces and *shabbiha* militias, and that children as young as 9 years of age were victims of killing and maiming, arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and ill-treatment, including sexual violence, and were used as human shields,

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[564] Resolution 217 A (III).

[565] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[566] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. I.

[567] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.2 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[568] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[569] Ibid., chap. V.

[570] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[571] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[572] A/66/782-S/2012/261.

*Expressing concern* at the vulnerable situation of women in this context, including being subjected to discrimination, sexual and physical abuse, violation of their privacy and arbitrary arrest and detention in raids, including to force their male relatives to surrender, and underlining the importance of preventing all sexual violence and violence based on gender,

*Deploring* the further deterioration of the humanitarian situation and the failure to ensure safe and timely provision of humanitarian assistance to all areas affected by the fighting,

*Expressing great concern* about the escalating violence causing an influx of Syrian refugees into neighbouring countries and countries of the region,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the failure to implement the six-point proposal of the former Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the League of Arab States to Syria,[573] welcoming the appointment of the new Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for Syria, and expressing its full support for his efforts towards the peaceful transition to a pluralistic, democratic civil State with equality in citizenship and freedoms,

*Recalling* the statements made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights before the Human Rights Council and the Security Council that crimes against humanity are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic,

*Expressing* the urgent need to achieve a cessation of violence and prevent its further escalation and spread,

1. *Strongly condemns* the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the Syrian authorities and the Government-controlled *shabbiha* militias, such as the use of heavy weapons, aerial bombardments and force against civilians, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, interference with access to medical treatment, torture, sexual violence and ill-treatment, including against children, as well as any human rights abuses by armed opposition groups;

2. *Calls upon* the Syrian authorities to immediately put an end to all human rights violations and attacks against civilians, to protect the population and to fully comply with their obligations under applicable international law, and calls upon all parties to put an end to all forms of violence;

3. *Urges* the Syrian authorities to release immediately all persons arbitrarily detained, including the members of the Syrian Centre for Media and Freedom of Expression, to publish a list of all detention facilities, to ensure that conditions of detention comply with applicable international law and to immediately allow access of independent monitors to all detention facilities;

4. *Stresses its support* for the aspirations of the Syrian people for a peaceful, democratic and pluralistic society, in which there is no room for sectarianism or discrimination on ethnic, religious, linguistic or any other grounds, based on the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Welcomes* the report of the independent international commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 19/22,[574] and the recommendations contained therein;

6. *Regrets* the continued non-cooperation of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic with the commission of inquiry;

7. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities provide the commission of inquiry and individuals working on its behalf immediate, full and unfettered entry and access to all areas of the Syrian Arab Republic, and demands also that all parties cooperate fully with the commission of inquiry in the performance of its mandate;

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[573] Security Council resolution 2042 (2012), annex.

[574] A/HRC/21/50.

8. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations bodies to invite the Chair of the commission of inquiry to brief them on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic;

9. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring accountability and the need to end impunity and hold to account those responsible for human rights violations, including those violations that may amount to crimes against humanity;

10. *Also stresses* the need to follow up on the report of the commission of inquiry and to conduct an international, transparent, independent and prompt investigation into abuses and violations of international law, with a view to holding to account those responsible for violations and abuses, including those that may amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes, and encourages members of the international community to ensure that there is no impunity for such violations or abuses;

11. *Further stresses* the important role that international justice could play in this regard;

12. *Calls upon* the Syrian authorities to immediately and fully implement the agreed humanitarian response plan, including by granting immediate, safe, full and unimpeded access of humanitarian personnel to all populations in need of assistance, in particular to civilian populations in need of evacuation, as well as safe, full and unimpeded access for affected civilians to humanitarian assistance and services, and also calls upon all parties in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular the Syrian authorities, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and relevant humanitarian organizations to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance;

13. *Strongly condemns* intentional and repeated attacks against medical facilities, personnel and vehicles as well as the use of medical civilian facilities, including hospitals, for armed purposes, and calls for all medical facilities to be free of weapons, including heavy weapons, in accordance with applicable international law;

14. *Expresses grave concern* at the increasing numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons as a result of the ongoing violence, reiterates its appreciation of the significant efforts that have been made by neighbouring countries and the countries of the region to assist those who have fled across the borders of the Syrian Arab Republic as a consequence of the violence, and urges all relevant United Nations agencies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and other donors to provide urgent and coordinated support to Syrian refugees and their host countries;

15. *Urges* the international community to provide urgent financial support to the host countries to enable them to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees, while emphasizing the principle of burden-sharing;

16. *Urges* all donors to provide expeditiously financial support to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and international humanitarian organizations, as requested in the humanitarian appeals issued by the United Nations system and the host countries, so that they can implement more actively the humanitarian response plan inside the country;

17. *Invites* Member States to provide all support to the Syrian people, and encourages Member States to contribute to the United Nations humanitarian response efforts.

## RESOLUTION 67/184

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[575]

### 67/184. Follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,[576] should be held,

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[575] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

*Emphasizing* the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

*Acknowledging* that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

*Bearing in mind* the consultative nature of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, and their role as a forum for promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

*Recalling* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, and invited its intergovernmental bodies to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

*Recalling also* its resolution 62/173 of 18 December 2007, in which it endorsed the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its meeting, held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[577]

*Recalling further* its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, in which it endorsed the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World, as adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider at its twentieth session options to improve the efficiency of the process involved in the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, and welcomed with appreciation the offer of the Government of Qatar to act as host to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in 2015,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/179 of 19 December 2011, in which it requested the Commission to approve at its twenty-first session the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Thirteenth Congress, and recommended that the outcome of future crime congresses be strengthened by limiting the number of their agenda items and workshops,

*Taking note* of the development goals and national commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[578]

*Emphasizing* the importance of integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address, inter alia, social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation,

*Stressing* the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Thirteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

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[576] Resolution 46/152, annex.

[577] See E/CN.15/2007/6, chap. IV.

[578] Resolution 55/2.

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[579]

1. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World[580] and the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein, taking into account the economic, social, legal and cultural specificities of their respective States;

2. *Notes* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

3. *Decides* that the duration of the Thirteenth Congress should not exceed eight days, including pre-Congress consultations;

4. *Also decides* that the main theme of the Thirteenth Congress shall be "Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation";

5. *Further decides* that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Thirteenth Congress shall include a high-level segment in which States are invited to be represented at the highest possible level, for example, by Heads of State or Government, Government ministers or attorneys general, and that representatives will be given an opportunity to make statements on the topics of the Congress;

6. *Decides* that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Thirteenth Congress shall adopt a single declaration, to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its consideration, and that the declaration shall contain recommendations reflecting the deliberations of the high-level segment, the discussion of agenda items and the workshops;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the participation of representatives from relevant entities of the United Nations system in the Thirteenth Congress, bearing in mind the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress;

8. *Approves* the following provisional agenda for the Thirteenth Congress, finalized by the Commission at its twenty-first session:

    1. Opening of the Congress.
    2. Organizational matters.
    3. Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development.
    4. International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime.
    5. Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime.[581]
    6. National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice.
    7. Adoption of the report of the Congress;

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[579] E/CN.15/2012/21 and Corr.1.

[580] Resolution 65/230, annex.

[581] This agenda item invites discussion on various evolving forms of transnational crime, including those reflected in General Assembly resolution 66/181 of 19 December 2011, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity".

9. *Decides* that the following issues shall be considered in workshops within the framework of the Thirteenth Congress:

(*a*) Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders;

(*b*) Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims;

(*c*) Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation;

(*d*) Public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice: experiences and lessons learned;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, to prepare a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress and for the Congress in a timely manner in order to enable those meetings to be held as early as possible in 2014, and invites Member States to be actively involved in that process;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of the regional preparatory meetings and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Thirteenth Congress itself, in accordance with past practice and in consultation with Member States;

12. *Urges* participants in the regional preparatory meetings to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Thirteenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft recommendations and conclusions for consideration by the Congress;

13. *Invites* Member States to be represented at the Thirteenth Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by Heads of State or Government, Government ministers or attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress and to participate actively in the high-level segment;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to play an active role in the Thirteenth Congress by sending legal and policy experts, including practitioners with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of the workshops to be held within the framework of the Thirteenth Congress, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Thirteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress, and encourages Member States to actively participate in the above-mentioned meetings, as they provide an opportunity to develop and maintain strong partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations;

17. *Encourages* Governments to undertake preparations for the Thirteenth Congress at an early stage and by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees;

18. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations programmes, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress;

19. *Requests* the Commission to accord sufficient time at its twenty-second session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress, to finalize in a timely manner all outstanding organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission at its twenty-second session.

## RESOLUTION 67/185

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[582]

### 67/185. Promoting efforts to eliminate violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/172 of 19 December 2011, entitled "Protection of migrants",

*Recognizing* that violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families poses a serious challenge to Member States and requires multilateral cooperation among all countries for its eradication,

*Recognizing also* that the challenges include violence perpetrated by organized criminal groups, including violence motivated by racism,

*Deeply concerned* about acts of intolerance, discrimination and violence and credible threats of violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families,

*Recognizing* that impediments to accessing employment, vocational training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as other services that, in accordance with national legislation, are intended for use by the public, contribute to the vulnerability of migrants,

*Noting* that the factors that drive people to seek to cross international borders are many and varied and that, while the majority may be motivated by economic factors, in some cases migrants may include vulnerable groups,

*Aware* that, as criminals take advantage of migratory flows and attempt to circumvent border controls, migrants become more vulnerable to, inter alia, kidnapping, extortion, forced labour, sexual exploitation, physical assault, debt servitude and abandonment,

*Concerned* about the large numbers of migrants, especially women and children, who attempt to cross international borders without appropriate travel documents, which renders them highly vulnerable, and recognizing the obligation of Member States to treat migrants humanely, with full protection of their rights, regardless of their immigration status,

*Bearing in mind* the need for a focused and consistent criminal justice approach to crimes committed against migrants, in particular women and children, as a group that is especially vulnerable to crime and abuse,

*Recognizing* the importance of the principle of access to justice, and convinced that, without access to justice, basic human rights cannot be fully realized,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[583] in which it is stated that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person, that no one should be held in slavery or servitude or be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration, without distinction of any kind,

*Reaffirming also* that effective action to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air requires a comprehensive international approach,

*Noting* the obligations of Member States under international law, as applicable, to prevent crimes against migrants, to investigate such crimes and to punish perpetrators, and bearing in mind that not doing so impairs the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims of such crimes,

*Stressing* the need for additional cooperation among Member States and between Member States and private sector entities to counter transnational organized crime,

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[582] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[583] Resolution 217 A (III).

*Stressing also* the need to fully implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[584] the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[585] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[586] and to take appropriate measures to afford migrants effective protection against the types of violence that may be inflicted upon them, including protection from potential retaliation or intimidation for testifying as witnesses in criminal proceedings,

*Recalling* its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, entitled "United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons", and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 20/3 of 15 April 2011, entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons",[587] stressing the need for full and effective implementation of the Plan of Action, and expressing the view that it will, inter alia, enhance cooperation and better coordination of efforts to fight trafficking in persons and for full implementation of the Convention and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol,

*Reaffirming* that crimes against migrants, including trafficking in persons, continue to pose a serious challenge and require a concerted international assessment and response and genuine multilateral cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for their eradication,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to highlight the vulnerability of smuggled migrants to violence, including the study entitled "Smuggling of migrants: a global review and annotated bibliography of recent publications", first published in 2010, and the discussion guide for the thematic discussion on violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families,[588]

*Welcoming* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[589] to take measures to protect the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate acts of racism and xenophobia and to promote greater harmony and tolerance,

*Recognizing* the increasing need for more effective international information-sharing, law enforcement cooperation and mutual legal assistance,

*Determined* to promote effective law enforcement and related measures to eliminate violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families,

1. *Strongly condemns* the continuing incidence of criminal acts against migrants, migrant workers and their families in all regions of the world, including criminal acts of violence motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

2. *Requests* Member States to ensure the humane treatment of all migrants, regardless of their immigration status, especially women and children, with full protection of their rights, and to take all appropriate measures with due regard for the safety and dignity of the person;

3. *Urges* Member States to adopt measures for preventing and addressing effectively cases of violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families, and to ensure that the victims of such crimes receive humane and respectful treatment from Member States, regardless of their immigration status;

4. *Encourages* Member States that have not already done so to enact national legislation and take other appropriate measures to combat international smuggling of migrants, including legislative, judicial, regulatory and administrative measures, recognizing that crimes against migrants may endanger the lives of migrants or make them vulnerable to trafficking, kidnapping or other crimes and abuse by organized criminal groups, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such crimes;

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[584] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[585] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[586] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[587] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 10* (E/2011/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[588] E/CN.15/2012/5.

[589] Resolution 55/2.

5. *Also encourages* Member States that have not already done so to enact national legislation and to take other appropriate measures to combat criminal acts of racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including steps to reduce the vulnerability of migrants to crime and to increase their engagement with host societies, consistent with national law;

6. *Reiterates its call* for those Member States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[590] and calls upon States parties to fully implement those treaties;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to institute measures, as appropriate, to strengthen the entire criminal justice process and to vigorously investigate and prosecute crimes against migrants, including trafficking in persons and other serious offences, especially crimes constituting violations of the human rights of migrants, giving special attention to assisting and protecting victims, in particular women and children;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting persons in vulnerable situations, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal entities and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

9. *Urges* Member States to fully use, where pertinent, international cooperation in their investigations and prosecution of crimes involving violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families, and encourages States parties to the Convention and the relevant Protocols thereto to avail themselves of the international cooperation framework of those instruments and all others to ensure that they have an adequate legal framework to allow for extradition, mutual legal assistance and international cooperation in relation to such crimes;

10. *Also urges* Member States to provide specialized training, as appropriate, for law enforcement, border control, immigration and other concerned officials to better equip them to identify and deal with issues related to violence against migrants, including in cooperation with non-governmental organizations and civil society;

11. *Invites* Member States to adopt concrete measures to prevent violence against migrants while in transit, to train public officials at ports of entry and in border areas to treat migrants and their families respectfully and in accordance with the law, and to prosecute, in conformity with applicable national and international law, violations of the rights of migrants and their families during such transit;

12. *Urges* Member States to continue exploring the link between migration, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons in order to further efforts towards protecting migrants from violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse;

13. *Encourages* Member States to make available information about the potential risks of migration and the rights and duties of persons who migrate, educating them about their host societies, so as to enable migrants to make informed decisions and to reduce the likelihood that they will be victims of crime;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to take measures to ensure that victims of crime, including migrants, migrant workers and their families, have access to the justice system for violations of their rights, irrespective of their immigration status;

15. *Encourages* Member States to further strengthen their cooperation in protecting witnesses in cases of smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons;

16. *Invites* Member States to take immediate steps to incorporate into national criminal justice strategies measures to prevent, prosecute and punish crimes involving violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families;

17. *Welcomes* the active role played by international and non-governmental organizations in combating violence against migrants;

18. *Urges* Member States to cooperate in international, regional and bilateral forums on the protection of migrants and on humane migration management.

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[590] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

## RESOLUTION 67/186

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[591]

### 67/186. Strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, particularly in the areas related to the United Nations system-wide approach to fighting transnational organized crime and drug trafficking

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/102 of 9 December 2011, entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels", in which it reaffirmed its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterated its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

*Stressing* the importance of a well-functioning, efficient, effective and humane criminal justice system as the basis for a successful strategy against transnational organized crime, corruption, terrorism, drug trafficking and other forms of trafficking,

*Greatly concerned* by the negative impact of organized crime on human rights, the rule of law, security and development, as well as by the sophistication, diversity and transnational aspects of organized crime and its links with other criminal and, in some cases, terrorist activities,

*Recognizing* the importance of the rule of law to all areas of engagement within the United Nations system, and noting with appreciation the progress made in ensuring coherence and coordination of activities to support the rule of law, in cooperation with the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, while recognizing the different mandates of different United Nations entities,

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolutions 2004/25 of 21 July 2004, 2005/21 of 22 July 2005 and 2006/25 of 27 July 2006 on strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, as well as the assistance activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in that area, including in post-conflict reconstruction, and aware of the leading role of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, among other entities, in providing assistance to countries in post-conflict situations,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 2009/23 of 30 July 2009, entitled "Support for the development and implementation of the regional programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime", and 2010/20 of 22 July 2010, entitled "Support for the development and implementation of an integrated approach to programme development at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime",

*Recalling further* the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,[592] in which Member States recognized the centrality of crime prevention and the criminal justice system to the rule of law and that long-term, sustainable economic and social development and the establishment of a functioning, efficient, effective and humane criminal justice system have a positive influence on each other,

*Bearing in mind* that the rule of law will include, inter alia, fostering respect for the rule of law culture and legislative, executive and judicial institutions needed to make and administer effective laws and trust and confidence that law-making will be responsive to the concerns and needs of the population and that the administration of law will be just, efficient and transparent,

*Convinced* of the negative impact of corruption, which erodes public confidence, legitimacy and transparency and impedes the making of fair and effective laws, as well as their administration, enforcement and adjudication,

*Stressing* the importance of the rule of law, both nationally and internationally, as an essential element in addressing and preventing organized crime and corruption,

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[591] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[592] Resolution 65/230, annex.

*Recognizing* the value of the efforts being made throughout the United Nations system to strengthen activities aimed at promoting the rule of law, including the establishment of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General,

*Noting with appreciation* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking as threats to security and stability for the purpose of developing within the United Nations system an effective and comprehensive approach to transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States as reflected in the Charter,

*Acknowledging* that the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice are important tools for establishing fair and effective criminal justice systems enshrined in the rule of law and that their use and application in the provision of technical assistance should be enhanced, as appropriate,

1. *Calls upon* relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue cooperating and coordinating their activities, within their respective mandates, to promote a more integrated approach to the provision of assistance for building capacity in the area of the rule of law and criminal justice reform and to further explore joint projects in that area;

2. *Also calls upon* relevant entities of the United Nations system to systematically take into account the various aspects of the rule of law in their programmes, projects and other activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice and to include in them all segments of the population, particularly women;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice;

4. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in the fulfilment of its mandate on crime prevention and criminal justice, to provide to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical assistance, advisory services and other forms of assistance and to coordinate with and complement the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices, taking into account their respective mandates;

5. *Strongly encourages* all States to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation, in accordance with their national legislation, to counter the challenges posed by transnational organized crime and drug trafficking;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to incorporate relevant elements of the rule of law into its programmes and projects pertaining to crime prevention and criminal justice, in coordination, as appropriate, with other relevant United Nations entities, inter alia, the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat;

7. *Also encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance and advisory services to Member States, upon request, in support of criminal justice reform and to incorporate the rule of law into such assistance, as appropriate, including within the framework of peacebuilding, peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction, and to promote relevant international legal instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[593] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[594] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[595] as well as relevant international anti-terrorism instruments, as appropriate, also drawing on the existing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in close consultation with Member States and regional entities, in developing and implementing an integrated programme approach to technical assistance, comprising thematic and regional programmes for its delivery;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue developing tools and training material on crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on international standards and norms;

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[593] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[594] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[595] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

10. *Reiterates* its recommendation, made in its resolution 66/181 of 19 December 2011, that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments and data collection and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, and its request in that resolution to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for that purpose;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, within its mandate, to Member States, upon request, in relation to the rule of law and long-term sustainable criminal justice reform;

12. *Urges* Member States providing development assistance to countries emerging from conflict to increase, where relevant, their bilateral assistance in crime prevention and criminal justice to those countries, and recommends that such assistance could, upon request, include elements relating to the rule of law;

13. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to include in their work programmes the issue of the rule of law, particularly aspects pertaining to crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to understanding whether there are links between transnational organized crime, drug trafficking and corruption, and, if so, to establish the degree and nature of those links as well as the challenges they may pose to the rule of law, and to develop appropriate training material;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

## RESOLUTION 67/187

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[596]

### 67/187. United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[597] which enshrines the key principles of equality before the law and the presumption of innocence, as well as the right to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, along with all the guarantees necessary for the defence of anyone charged with a penal offence, other minimum guarantees and the entitlement to be tried without undue delay,

*Recalling also* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[598] in particular article 14 thereof, which states that everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be entitled to be tried in his or her presence and to defend himself or herself in person or through legal assistance of his or her own choosing or assigned to him or her where the interests of justice so require, in a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law,

*Bearing in mind* the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,[599] approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 663 C (XXIV) of 31 July 1957 and extended by the Council by its resolution 2076 (LXII) of 13 May 1977, according to which an untried prisoner, for the purposes of his or her defence, shall be allowed to receive visits from his or her legal adviser,

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[596] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[597] Resolution 217 A (III).

[598] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[599] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, Volume I (First Part), *Universal Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIV.4 (Vol. I, Part 1)), sect. J, No. 34.

*Bearing in mind also* the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment,[600] principle 11 of which states that a detained person shall have the right to defend himself or herself or to be assisted by counsel as prescribed by law,

*Bearing in mind further* the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers,[601] in particular principle 6 thereof, which states that any persons who do not have a lawyer shall, in all cases in which the interests of justice so require, be entitled to have a lawyer of experience and competence commensurate with the nature of the offence assigned to them in order to provide effective legal assistance, without payment by them if they lack sufficient means to pay for such services,

*Recalling* the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[602] especially paragraph 18 thereof, in which Member States are called upon to take steps, in accordance with their domestic laws, to promote access to justice, to consider the provision of legal aid to those who need it and to enable the effective assertion of their rights in the criminal justice system,

*Recalling also* the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,[603] especially paragraph 52 thereof, in which it is recommended that Member States endeavour to reduce pretrial detention, where appropriate, and promote increased access to justice and legal defence mechanisms,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/24 of 26 July 2007 on international cooperation for the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa,

*Recognizing* that legal aid is an essential element of a fair, humane and efficient criminal justice system that is based on the rule of law and that it is a foundation for the enjoyment of other rights, including the right to a fair trial, as a precondition to exercising such rights and an important safeguard that ensures fundamental fairness and public trust in the criminal justice process,

*Recognizing also* that the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, annexed to the present resolution, can be applied by Member States, taking into account the great variety of legal systems and socioeconomic conditions in the world,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on strengthening access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, at its meeting held in Vienna from 16 to 18 November 2011, to develop a set of principles and guidelines on access to legal aid in criminal justice systems;

2. *Adopts* the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, annexed to the present resolution, as a useful framework to guide Member States on the principles on which a legal aid system in criminal justice should be based, taking into account the content of the present resolution and the fact that all elements of the annex will be applied in accordance with national legislation;

3. *Invites* Member States, consistent with their national legislation, to adopt and strengthen measures to ensure that effective legal aid is provided, in accordance with the spirit of the Principles and Guidelines, bearing in mind the diversity of criminal justice systems among different countries and regions around the world and the fact that legal aid is developed in accordance with the overall balance of the criminal justice system, as well as the circumstances of countries and regions;

4. *Encourages* Member States to consider, where appropriate, the provision of legal aid and to provide such aid to the maximum extent possible;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to draw upon the Principles and Guidelines, as appropriate, and in accordance with national law, in undertaking national efforts and measures to strengthen access to legal aid in criminal justice systems;

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[600] Resolution 43/173, annex.

[601] *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.3, annex.

[602] Resolution 60/177, annex.

[603] Resolution 65/230, annex.

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue to provide advisory services and technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in the area of criminal justice reform, including restorative justice, alternatives to imprisonment and the development of integrated plans for the provision of legal aid;

7. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to make the Principles and Guidelines widely available, including through the development of relevant tools such as handbooks and training manuals;

8. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## Annex

## United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems

### A. Introduction

1. Legal aid is an essential element of a fair, humane and efficient criminal justice system that is based on the rule of law. Legal aid is a foundation for the enjoyment of other rights, including the right to a fair trial, as defined in article 11, paragraph 1, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[597] a precondition to exercising such rights and an important safeguard that ensures fundamental fairness and public trust in the criminal justice process.

2. Furthermore, article 14, paragraph 3 (*d*), of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[598] states that everyone should be entitled, among other rights, "to be tried in his presence, and to defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing; to be informed, if he does not have legal assistance, of this right; and to have legal assistance assigned to him in any case where the interests of justice so require, and without payment by him in any such case if he does not have sufficient means to pay for it".

3. A functioning legal aid system, as part of a functioning criminal justice system, may reduce the length of time suspects are held in police stations and detention centres, in addition to reducing the prison population, wrongful convictions, prison overcrowding and congestion in the courts, and reducing reoffending and revictimization. It may also protect and safeguard the rights of victims and witnesses in the criminal justice process. Legal aid can be utilized to contribute to the prevention of crime by increasing awareness of the law.

4. Legal aid plays an important role in facilitating diversion and the use of community-based sanctions and measures, including non-custodial measures; promoting greater community involvement in the criminal justice system; reducing the unnecessary use of detention and imprisonment; rationalizing criminal justice policies; and ensuring efficient use of State resources.

5. Regrettably, many countries still lack the necessary resources and capacity to provide legal aid for suspects, those charged with a criminal offence, prisoners, victims and witnesses.

6. The United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, which are drawn from international standards and recognized good practices, aim to provide guidance to States on the fundamental principles on which a legal aid system in criminal justice should be based and to outline the specific elements required for an effective and sustainable national legal aid system, in order to strengthen access to legal aid pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/24 of 26 July 2007, entitled "International cooperation for the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa".

7. In line with the Lilongwe Declaration on Accessing Legal Aid in the Criminal Justice System in Africa and the Lilongwe Plan of Action for the implementation of the Declaration, the Principles and Guidelines follow a broad concept of legal aid.

8. For the purposes of the Principles and Guidelines, the term "legal aid" includes legal advice, assistance and representation for persons detained, arrested or imprisoned, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence and for victims and witnesses in the criminal justice process that is provided at no cost for those without sufficient means or when the interests of justice so require. Furthermore, "legal aid" is intended to include the concepts of legal education, access to legal information and other services provided for persons through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and restorative justice processes.

9. For the purposes of the Principles and Guidelines, the individual who provides legal aid is herein referred to as the "legal aid provider", and the organizations that provide legal aid are referred to as the "legal aid service providers". The first providers of legal aid are lawyers, but the Principles and Guidelines also suggest that States involve a wide range of stakeholders as legal aid service providers in the form of non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, religious and non-religious charitable organizations, professional bodies and associations and academia. Provision of legal aid to foreign nationals should conform to the requirements of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations[604] and other applicable bilateral treaties.

10. It should be noted that States employ different models for the provision of legal aid. These may involve public defenders, private lawyers, contract lawyers, pro bono schemes, bar associations, paralegals and others. The Principles and Guidelines do not endorse any specific model but encourage States to guarantee the basic right to legal aid of persons detained, arrested or imprisoned,[605] suspected[606] or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence, while expanding legal aid to include others who come into contact with the criminal justice system and diversifying legal aid delivery schemes.

11. The Principles and Guidelines are based on the recognition that States should, where appropriate, undertake a series of measures that, even if not strictly related to legal aid, can maximize the positive impact that the establishment and/or reinforcement of a properly working legal aid system may have on a properly functioning criminal justice system and on access to justice.

12. Recognizing that certain groups are entitled to additional protection or are more vulnerable when involved with the criminal justice system, the Principles and Guidelines also provide specific provisions for women, children and groups with special needs.

13. The Principles and Guidelines are primarily concerned with the right to legal aid, as distinct from the right to legal assistance as recognized in international law. Nothing in these Principles and Guidelines should be interpreted as providing a lesser degree of protection than that provided under existing national laws and regulations and international and regional human rights conventions or covenants applicable to the administration of justice, including, but not limited to, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[607] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[608] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.[609] However, this should not be interpreted as meaning that States are bound by international and regional instruments that they have not ratified or acceded to.

## B. Principles

### Principle 1
### Right to legal aid

14. Recognizing that legal aid is an essential element of a functioning criminal justice system that is based on the rule of law, a foundation for the enjoyment of other rights, including the right to a fair trial, and an important safeguard that ensures fundamental fairness and public trust in the criminal justice process,[610] States should guarantee the right to legal aid in their national legal systems at the highest possible level, including, where applicable, in the constitution.

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[604] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

[605] The terms "arrest", "detained person" and "imprisoned person" are understood as defined in the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment (resolution 43/173, annex).

[606] The right to legal aid of suspects arises before questioning, when they become aware that they are the subject of investigation, and when they are under threat of abuse and intimidation, e.g., in custodial settings.

[607] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[608] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[609] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[610] The term "justice process" is understood as defined in the Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime (Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/20, annex). For the purpose of the Principles and Guidelines, the term shall also encompass extradition, transfer of prisoners and mutual legal assistance proceedings.

### Principle 2
### Responsibilities of the State

15. States should consider the provision of legal aid their duty and responsibility. To that end, they should consider, where appropriate, enacting specific legislation and regulations and ensure that a comprehensive legal aid system is in place that is accessible, effective, sustainable and credible. States should allocate the necessary human and financial resources to the legal aid system.

16. The State should not interfere with the organization of the defence of the beneficiary of legal aid or with the independence of his or her legal aid provider.

17. States should enhance the knowledge of the people about their rights and obligations under the law through appropriate means, in order to prevent criminal conduct and victimization.

18. States should endeavour to enhance the knowledge of their communities about their justice system and its functions, the ways to file complaints before the courts and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

19. States should consider adopting appropriate measures for informing their communities about acts criminalized under the law. The provision of such information for those travelling to other jurisdictions, where crimes are categorized and prosecuted differently, is essential for crime prevention.

### Principle 3
### Legal aid for persons suspected of or charged with a criminal offence

20. States should ensure that anyone who is detained, arrested, suspected of, or charged with a criminal offence punishable by a term of imprisonment or the death penalty is entitled to legal aid at all stages of the criminal justice process.

21. Legal aid should also be provided, regardless of the person's means, if the interests of justice so require, for example, given the urgency or complexity of the case or the severity of the potential penalty.

22. Children should have access to legal aid under the same conditions as or more lenient conditions than adults.

23. It is the responsibility of police, prosecutors and judges to ensure that those who appear before them who cannot afford a lawyer and/or who are vulnerable are provided access to legal aid.

### Principle 4
### Legal aid for victims of crime

24. Without prejudice to or inconsistency with the rights of the accused, States should, where appropriate, provide legal aid to victims of crime.

### Principle 5
### Legal aid for witnesses

25. Without prejudice to or inconsistency with the rights of the accused, States should, where appropriate, provide legal aid to witnesses of crime.

### Principle 6
### Non-discrimination

26. States should ensure the provision of legal aid to all persons regardless of age, race, colour, gender, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or social origin or property, citizenship or domicile, birth, education or social status or other status.

### Principle 7
### Prompt and effective provision of legal aid

27. States should ensure that effective legal aid is provided promptly at all stages of the criminal justice process.

28. Effective legal aid includes, but is not limited to, unhindered access to legal aid providers for detained persons, confidentiality of communications, access to case files and adequate time and facilities to prepare their defence.

### Principle 8
### Right to be informed

29. States should ensure that, prior to any questioning and at the time of deprivation of liberty, persons are informed of their right to legal aid and other procedural safeguards as well as of the potential consequences of voluntarily waiving those rights.

30. States should ensure that information on rights during the criminal justice process and on legal aid services is made freely available and is accessible to the public.

### Principle 9
### Remedies and safeguards

31. States should establish effective remedies and safeguards that apply if access to legal aid is undermined, delayed or denied or if persons have not been adequately informed of their right to legal aid.

### Principle 10
### Equity in access to legal aid

32. Special measures should be taken to ensure meaningful access to legal aid for women, children and groups with special needs, including, but not limited to, the elderly, minorities, persons with disabilities, persons with mental illnesses, persons living with HIV and other serious contagious diseases, drug users, indigenous and aboriginal people, stateless persons, asylum seekers, foreign citizens, migrants and migrant workers, refugees and internally displaced persons. Such measures should address the special needs of those groups, including gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures.

33. States should also ensure that legal aid is provided to persons living in rural, remote and economically and socially disadvantaged areas and to persons who are members of economically and socially disadvantaged groups.

### Principle 11
### Legal aid in the best interests of the child

34. In all legal aid decisions affecting children,[611] the best interests of the child should be the primary consideration.

35. Legal aid provided to children should be prioritized, in the best interests of the child, and be accessible, age-appropriate, multidisciplinary, effective and responsive to the specific legal and social needs of children.

### Principle 12
### Independence and protection of legal aid providers

36. States should ensure that legal aid providers are able to carry out their work effectively, freely and independently. In particular, States should ensure that legal aid providers are able to perform all of their professional functions without intimidation, hindrance, harassment or improper interference; are able to travel, to consult and meet with their clients freely and in full confidentiality both within their own country and abroad, and to freely access prosecution and other relevant files; and do not suffer, and are not threatened with, prosecution or administrative, economic or other sanctions for any action taken in accordance with recognized professional duties, standards and ethics.

### Principle 13
### Competence and accountability of legal aid providers

37. States should put in place mechanisms to ensure that all legal aid providers possess education, training, skills and experience that are commensurate with the nature of their work, including the gravity of the offences dealt with, and the rights and needs of women, children and groups with special needs.

38. Disciplinary complaints against legal aid providers should be promptly investigated and adjudicated in accordance with professional codes of ethics before an impartial body and subject to judicial review.

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[611] "Child" shall mean any person under 18 years of age, in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

### Principle 14
### Partnerships

39. States should recognize and encourage the contribution of lawyers' associations, universities, civil society and other groups and institutions in providing legal aid.

40. Where appropriate, public-private and other forms of partnership should be established to extend the reach of legal aid.

## C. Guidelines

### Guideline 1
### Provision of legal aid

41. Whenever States apply a means test to determine eligibility for legal aid, they should ensure that:

(*a*) Persons whose means exceed the limits of the means test but who cannot afford, or do not have access to, a lawyer in situations where legal aid would have otherwise been granted and where it is in the interests of justice to provide such aid, are not excluded from receiving assistance;

(*b*) The criteria for applying the means test are widely publicized;

(*c*) Persons urgently requiring legal aid at police stations, detention centres or courts should be provided preliminary legal aid while their eligibility is being determined. Children are always exempted from the means test;

(*d*) Persons who are denied legal aid on the basis of the means test have the right to appeal that decision;

(*e*) A court may, having regard to the particular circumstances of a person and after considering the reasons for denial of legal aid, direct that that person be provided with legal aid, with or without his or her contribution, when the interests of justice so require;

(*f*) If the means test is calculated on the basis of the household income of a family, but individual family members are in conflict with each other or do not have equal access to the family income, only the income of the person applying for legal aid is used for the purpose of the means test.

### Guideline 2
### Right to be informed on legal aid

42. In order to guarantee the right of persons to be informed of their right to legal aid, States should ensure that:

(*a*) Information on the right to legal aid and what such aid consists of, including the availability of legal aid services and how to access such services and other relevant information, is made available to the community and to the general public in local government offices and educational and religious institutions and through the media, including the Internet, or other appropriate means;

(*b*) Information is made available to isolated groups and marginalized groups. Use should be made of radio and television programmes, regional and local newspapers, the Internet and other means, in particular, following changes to the law or specific issues affecting a community, targeted community meetings;

(*c*) Police officers, prosecutors, judicial officers and officials in any facility where persons are imprisoned or detained inform unrepresented persons of their right to legal aid and of other procedural safeguards;

(*d*) Information on the rights of a person suspected of or charged with a criminal offence in a criminal justice process and on the availability of legal aid services is provided in police stations, detention centres, courts and prisons, for example, through the provision of a letter of rights or in any other official form submitted to the accused. Such information should be provided in a manner that corresponds to the needs of illiterate persons, minorities, persons with disabilities and children; and such information should be in a language that those persons understand. Information provided to children must be provided in a manner appropriate to their age and maturity;

(*e*) Effective remedies are available to persons who have not been adequately informed of their right to legal aid. Such remedies may include a prohibition on conducting procedural actions, release from detention, exclusion of evidence, judicial review and compensation;

(*f*) Means of verification that a person has actually been informed are put in place.

### Guideline 3
### Other rights of persons detained, arrested, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence

43. States should introduce measures:

(*a*) To promptly inform every person detained, arrested, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence of his or her right to remain silent; his or her right to consult with counsel or, if eligible, with a legal aid provider at any stage of the proceedings, especially before being interviewed by the authorities; and his or her right to be assisted by an independent counsel or legal aid provider while being interviewed and during other procedural actions;

(*b*) To prohibit, in the absence of any compelling circumstances, any interviewing of a person by the police in the absence of a lawyer, unless the person gives his or her informed and voluntary consent to waive the lawyer's presence, and to establish mechanisms for verifying the voluntary nature of the person's consent. An interview should not start until the legal aid provider arrives;

(*c*) To inform all foreign detainees and prisoners in a language they understand of their right to request contact with their consular authorities without delay;

(*d*) To ensure that persons meet with a lawyer or a legal aid provider promptly after their arrest in full confidentiality; and that the confidentiality of further communications is guaranteed;

(*e*) To enable every person who has been detained for any reason to promptly notify a member of his or her family, or any other appropriate person of his or her choosing, of his or her detention and location and of any imminent change of location; the competent authority may, however, delay a notification if absolutely necessary, if provided for by law and if the transmission of the information would hinder a criminal investigation;

(*f*) To provide the services of an independent interpreter, whenever necessary, and the translation of documents where appropriate;

(*g*) To assign a guardian, whenever necessary;

(*h*) To make available in police stations and places of detention the means to contact legal aid providers;

(*i*) To ensure that persons detained, arrested, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence are advised of their rights and the implications of waiving them in a clear and plain manner; and should endeavour to ensure that the person understands both;

(*j*) To ensure that persons are informed of any mechanism available for filing complaints of torture or ill-treatment;

(*k*) To ensure that the exercise of these rights by a person is not prejudicial to his or her case.

### Guideline 4
### Legal aid at the pretrial stage

44. To ensure that detained persons have prompt access to legal aid in conformity with the law, States should take measures:

(*a*) To ensure that police and judicial authorities do not arbitrarily restrict the right or access to legal aid for persons detained, arrested, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence, in particular in police stations;

(*b*) To facilitate access for legal aid providers assigned to provide assistance to detained persons in police stations and other places of detention for the purpose of providing that assistance;

(*c*) To ensure legal representation at all pretrial proceedings and hearings;

(*d*) To monitor and enforce custody time limits in police holding cells or other detention centres, for example, by instructing judicial authorities to screen the remand caseload in detention centres on a regular basis to make sure that people are remanded lawfully, that their cases are dealt with in a timely manner and that the conditions in which they are held meet the relevant legal standards, including international ones;

(*e*) To provide every person, on admission to a place of detention, with information on his or her rights in law, the rules of the place of detention and the initial stages of the pretrial process. Such information should be provided in a manner that corresponds to the needs of illiterate persons, minorities, persons with disabilities and children and be in a language that the person in need of legal aid understands. Information provided to children should be provided in a manner appropriate for their age and maturity. The information material should be supported by visual aids prominently located in each detention centre;

(*f*) To request bar or legal associations and other partnership institutions to establish a roster of lawyers and paralegals to support a comprehensive legal system for persons detained, arrested, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence, in particular at police stations;

(*g*) To ensure that every person charged with a criminal offence has adequate time, facilities and technical and financial support, in case he or she does not have sufficient means, to prepare his or her defence and is able to consult with his or her lawyer in full confidentiality.

### Guideline 5
### Legal aid during court proceedings

45. To guarantee that every person charged with a criminal offence for which a term of imprisonment or capital punishment may be imposed by a court of law has access to legal aid in all proceedings at court, including on appeal and other related proceedings, States should introduce measures:

(*a*) To ensure that the accused understands the case against him or her and the possible consequences of the trial;

(*b*) To ensure that every person charged with a criminal offence has adequate time, facilities and technical and financial support, in case he or she does not have sufficient means, to prepare his or her defence and is able to consult with his or her lawyer in full confidentiality;

(*c*) To provide representation in any court proceedings by a lawyer of choice, where appropriate, or by a competent lawyer assigned by the court or other legal aid authority at no cost when the person does not have sufficient means to pay and/or where the interests of justice so require;

(*d*) To ensure that the counsel of the accused is present at all critical stages of the proceedings. Critical stages are all stages of a criminal proceeding at which the advice of a lawyer is necessary to ensure the right of the accused to a fair trial or at which the absence of counsel might impair the preparation or presentation of a defence;

(*e*) To request bar or legal associations and other partnership institutions to establish a roster of lawyers and paralegals to support a comprehensive legal system for persons detained, arrested, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence; such support could include, for example, appearing before the courts on fixed days;

(*f*) To enable, in accordance with national law, paralegals and law students to provide appropriate types of assistance to the accused in court, provided that they are under the supervision of qualified lawyers;

(*g*) To ensure that unrepresented suspects and the accused understand their rights. This may include, but is not limited to, requiring judges and prosecutors to explain their rights to them in clear and plain language.

### Guideline 6
### Legal aid at the post-trial stage

46. States should ensure that imprisoned persons and children deprived of their liberty have access to legal aid. Where legal aid is not available, States shall ensure that such persons are held in prison in conformity with the law.

47. For this purpose, States should introduce measures:

(*a*) To provide all persons, on admission to the place of imprisonment and during their detention, with information on the rules of the place of imprisonment and their rights under the law, including the right to confidential legal aid, advice and assistance; the possibilities for further review of their case; their rights during disciplinary proceedings; and procedures for complaint, appeal, early release, pardon or clemency. Such information should be provided in a manner that corresponds to the needs of illiterate persons, minorities, persons with disabilities and children and should be in a language that the person in need of legal aid understands. Information provided to children should be provided in a manner appropriate for their age and maturity. The information material should be supported by visual aids prominently located in those parts of the facilities to which prisoners have regular access;

(*b*) To encourage bar and legal associations and other legal aid providers to draw up rosters of lawyers, and paralegals, where appropriate, to visit prisons to provide legal advice and assistance at no cost to prisoners;

(*c*) To ensure that prisoners have access to legal aid for the purpose of submitting appeals and filing requests related to their treatment and the conditions of their imprisonment, including when facing serious disciplinary charges, and for requests for pardon, in particular for those prisoners facing the death penalty, as well as for applications for parole and representation at parole hearings;

(*d*) To inform foreign prisoners of the possibility, where available, of seeking transfer to serve their sentence in their country of nationality, subject to the consent of the States involved.

### Guideline 7
### Legal aid for victims

48. Without prejudice to or inconsistency with the rights of the accused and consistent with the relevant national legislation, States should take adequate measures, where appropriate, to ensure that:

(*a*) Appropriate advice, assistance, care, facilities and support are provided to victims of crime, throughout the criminal justice process, in a manner that prevents repeat victimization and secondary victimization;[612]

(*b*) Child victims receive legal assistance as required, in line with the Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime;[613]

(*c*) Victims receive legal advice on any aspect of their involvement in the criminal justice process, including the possibility of taking civil action or making a claim for compensation in separate legal proceedings, whichever is consistent with the relevant national legislation;

(*d*) Victims are promptly informed by the police and other front-line responders (i.e., health, social and child welfare providers) of their right to information and their entitlement to legal aid, assistance and protection and of how to access such rights;

(*e*) The views and concerns of victims are presented and considered at appropriate stages of the criminal justice process where their personal interests are affected or where the interests of justice so require;

(*f*) Victim services agencies and non-governmental organizations can provide legal aid to victims;

(*g*) Mechanisms and procedures are established to ensure close cooperation and appropriate referral systems between legal aid providers and other professionals (i.e., health, social and child welfare providers) to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the victim, as well as an assessment of his or her legal, psychological, social, emotional, physical and cognitive situation and needs.

### Guideline 8
### Legal aid for witnesses

49. States should take adequate measures, where appropriate, to ensure that:

(*a*) Witnesses are promptly informed by the relevant authority of their right to information, their entitlement to assistance and protection and how to access such rights;

(*b*) Appropriate advice, assistance, care facilities and support are provided to witnesses of crime throughout the criminal justice process;

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[612] "Repeat victimization" and "secondary victimization" are understood as defined in paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 of the appendix to Recommendation Rec(2006)8 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to member States on assistance to crime victims.

[613] Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/20, annex.

(*c*) Child witnesses receive legal assistance as required, in line with the Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime;

(*d*) All statements or testimony given by the witness at all stages of the criminal justice process are accurately interpreted and translated.

50. States should, where appropriate, provide legal aid to witnesses.

51. The circumstances in which it may be appropriate to provide legal aid to witnesses include, but are not limited to, situations in which:

(*a*) The witness is at risk of incriminating himself or herself;

(*b*) There is a risk to the safety and well-being of the witness resulting from his or her status as such;

(*c*) The witness is particularly vulnerable, including as a result of having special needs.

### Guideline 9
### Implementation of the right of women to access legal aid

52. States should take applicable and appropriate measures to ensure the right of women to access legal aid, including:

(*a*) Introducing an active policy of incorporating a gender perspective into all policies, laws, procedures, programmes and practices relating to legal aid to ensure gender equality and equal and fair access to justice;

(*b*) Taking active steps to ensure that, where possible, female lawyers are available to represent female defendants, accused and victims;

(*c*) Providing legal aid, advice and court support services in all legal proceedings to female victims of violence in order to ensure access to justice and avoid secondary victimization and other such services, which may include the translation of legal documents where requested or required.

### Guideline 10
### Special measures for children

53. States should ensure special measures for children to promote children's effective access to justice and to prevent stigmatization and other adverse effects as a result of their being involved in the criminal justice system, including:

(*a*) Ensuring the right of the child to have counsel assigned to represent the child in his or her own name in proceedings where there is or could be a conflict of interest between the child and his or her parents or other parties involved;

(*b*) Enabling children who are detained, arrested, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence to contact their parents or guardians at once and prohibiting any interviewing of a child in the absence of his or her lawyer or other legal aid provider, and parent or guardian when available, in the best interests of the child;

(*c*) Ensuring the right of the child to have the matter determined in the presence of the child's parents or legal guardian, unless it is not considered to be in the best interests of the child;

(*d*) Ensuring that children may consult freely and in full confidentiality with parents and/or guardians and legal representatives;

(*e*) Providing information on legal rights in a manner appropriate for the child's age and maturity, in a language that the child can understand and in a manner that is gender- and culture-sensitive. Provision of information to parents, guardians or caregivers should be in addition, and not an alternative, to communicating information to the child;

(*f*) Promoting, where appropriate, diversion from the formal criminal justice system and ensuring that children have the right to legal aid at every stage of the process where diversion is applied;

(*g*) Encouraging, where appropriate, the use of alternative measures and sanctions to deprivation of liberty and ensuring that children have the right to legal aid so that deprivation of liberty is a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

(*h*) Establishing measures to ensure that judicial and administrative proceedings are conducted in an atmosphere and manner that allow children to be heard either directly or through a representative or an appropriate body in a manner consistent with the procedural rules of national law. Taking into account the child's age and maturity may also require modified judicial and administrative procedures and practices.

54. The privacy and personal data of a child who is or who has been involved in judicial or non-judicial proceedings and other interventions should be protected at all stages, and such protection should be guaranteed by law. This generally implies that no information or personal data may be made available or published, particularly in the media, that could reveal or indirectly enable the disclosure of the child's identity, including images of the child, detailed descriptions of the child or the child's family, names or addresses of the child's family members and audio and video records.

## Guideline 11
## Nationwide legal aid system

55. In order to encourage the functioning of a nationwide legal aid system, States should, where it is appropriate, undertake measures:

(*a*) To ensure and promote the provision of effective legal aid at all stages of the criminal justice process for persons detained, arrested or imprisoned, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence, and for victims of crime;

(*b*) To provide legal aid to persons who have been unlawfully arrested or detained or who have received a final judgement of the court as a result of a miscarriage of justice, in order to enforce their right to retrial, reparation, including compensation, rehabilitation and guarantees of non-repetition;

(*c*) To promote coordination between justice agencies and other professionals such as health, social services and victim support workers in order to maximize the effectiveness of the legal aid system, without prejudice to the rights of the accused;

(*d*) To establish partnerships with bar or legal associations to ensure the provision of legal aid at all stages of the criminal justice process;

(*e*) To enable paralegals to provide those forms of legal aid allowed by national law or practice to persons detained, arrested, suspected of, or charged with a criminal offence, in particular in police stations or other detention centres;

(*f*) To promote the provision of appropriate legal aid for the purpose of crime prevention.

56. States should also take measures:

(*a*) To encourage legal and bar associations to support the provision of legal aid by offering a range of services, including those that are free (pro bono), in line with their professional calling and ethical duty;

(*b*) To identify incentives for lawyers to work in economically and socially disadvantaged areas (e.g., tax exemption, fellowships and travel and subsistence allowances);

(*c*) To encourage lawyers to organize regular circuits of lawyers around the country to provide legal aid to those in need.

57. In the design of their nationwide legal aid schemes, States should take into account the needs of specific groups, including but not limited to the elderly, minorities, persons with disabilities, the mentally ill, persons living with HIV and other severe contagious diseases, drug users, indigenous and aboriginal people, stateless persons, asylum seekers, foreign citizens, refugees and internally displaced persons, in line with guidelines 9 and 10.

58. States should take appropriate measures to establish child-friendly[614] and child-sensitive legal aid systems, taking into account children's evolving capacities and the need to strike an appropriate balance between the best interests of the child and children's right to be heard in judicial proceedings, including:

(*a*) Establishing, where possible, dedicated mechanisms to support specialized legal aid for children and support the integration of child-friendly legal aid into general and non-specialized mechanisms;

(*b*) Adopting legal aid legislation, policies and regulations that explicitly take into account the child's rights and special developmental needs, including the right to have legal or other appropriate assistance in the preparation and presentation of his or her defence; the right to be heard in all judicial proceedings affecting him or her; standard procedures for determining best interest; privacy and protection of personal data; and the right to be considered for diversion;

(*c*) Establishing child-friendly legal aid service standards and professional codes of conduct. Legal aid providers working with and for children should, where necessary, be subject to regular vetting to ensure their suitability for working with children;

(*d*) Promoting standard legal aid training programmes. Legal aid providers representing children should be trained in and be knowledgeable about children's rights and related issues, receive ongoing and in-depth training and be capable of communicating with children at their level of understanding. All legal aid providers working with and for children should receive basic interdisciplinary training on the rights and needs of children of different age groups and on proceedings that are adapted to them, and training on psychological and other aspects of the development of children, with special attention to girls and children who are members of minority or indigenous groups, and on available measures for promoting the defence of children who are in conflict with the law;

(*e*) Establishing mechanisms and procedures to ensure close cooperation and appropriate referral systems between legal aid providers and different professionals to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the child, as well as an assessment of his or her legal, psychological, social, emotional, physical and cognitive situation and needs.

59. To ensure the effective implementation of nationwide legal aid schemes, States should consider establishing a legal aid body or authority to provide, administer, coordinate and monitor legal aid services. Such a body should:

(*a*) Be free from undue political or judicial interference, be independent of the Government in decision-making related to legal aid and not be subject to the direction, control or financial intimidation of any person or authority in the performance of its functions, regardless of its administrative structure;

(*b*) Have the necessary powers to provide legal aid, including but not limited to the appointment of personnel; the designation of legal aid services to individuals; the setting of criteria and accreditation of legal aid providers, including training requirements; the oversight of legal aid providers and the establishment of independent bodies to handle complaints against them; the assessment of legal aid needs nationwide; and the power to develop its own budget;

(*c*) Develop, in consultation with key justice sector stakeholders and civil society organizations, a long-term strategy guiding the evolution and sustainability of legal aid;

(*d*) Report periodically to the responsible authority.

### Guideline 12
### Funding the nationwide legal aid system

60. Recognizing that the benefits of legal aid services include financial benefits and cost savings throughout the criminal justice process, States should, where appropriate, make adequate and specific budget provisions for legal aid services that are commensurate with their needs, including by providing dedicated and sustainable funding mechanisms for the national legal aid system.

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[614] "Child-friendly legal aid" is the provision of legal assistance to children in criminal, civil and administrative proceedings that is accessible, age-appropriate, multidisciplinary and effective, and that is responsive to the range of legal and social needs faced by children and youth. Child-friendly legal aid is delivered by lawyers and non-lawyers who are trained in children's law and child and adolescent development and who are able to communicate effectively with children and their caretakers.

61. To this end, States could take measures:

(*a*) To establish a legal aid fund to finance legal aid schemes, including public defender schemes, to support legal aid provision by legal or bar associations; to support university law clinics; and to sponsor non-governmental organizations and other organizations, including paralegal organizations, in providing legal aid services throughout the country, especially in rural and economically and socially disadvantaged areas;

(*b*) To identify fiscal mechanisms for channelling funds to legal aid, such as:

(i) Allocating a percentage of the State's criminal justice budget to legal aid services that are commensurate with the needs of effective legal aid provision;

(ii) Using funds recovered from criminal activities through seizures or fines to cover legal aid for victims;

(*c*) To identify and put in place incentives for lawyers to work in rural areas and economically and socially disadvantaged areas (e.g., tax exemptions or reductions, student loan payment reductions);

(*d*) To ensure fair and proportional distribution of funds between prosecution and legal aid agencies.

62. The budget for legal aid should cover the full range of services to be provided to persons detained, arrested or imprisoned, suspected or accused of, or charged with a criminal offence, and to victims. Adequate special funding should be dedicated to defence expenses such as expenses for copying relevant files and documents and collection of evidence, expenses related to expert witnesses, forensic experts and social workers, and travel expenses. Payments should be timely.

### Guideline 13
### Human resources

63. States should, where appropriate, make adequate and specific provisions for staffing the nationwide legal aid system that are commensurate with their needs.

64. States should ensure that professionals working for the national legal aid system possess qualifications and training appropriate for the services they provide.

65. Where there is a shortage of qualified lawyers, the provision of legal aid services may also include non-lawyers or paralegals. At the same time, States should promote the growth of the legal profession and remove financial barriers to legal education.

66. States should also encourage wide access to the legal profession, including affirmative action measures to ensure access for women, minorities and economically disadvantaged groups.

### Guideline 14
### Paralegals

67. States should, in accordance with their national law and where appropriate, recognize the role played by paralegals or similar service providers in providing legal aid services where access to lawyers is limited.

68. For this purpose, States should, in consultation with civil society and justice agencies and professional associations, introduce measures:

(*a*) To develop, where appropriate, a nationwide scheme of paralegal services with standardized training curricula and accreditation schemes, including appropriate screening and vetting;

(*b*) To ensure that quality standards for paralegal services are set and that paralegals receive adequate training and operate under the supervision of qualified lawyers;

(*c*) To ensure the availability of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to guarantee the quality of the services provided by paralegals;

(*d*) To promote, in consultation with civil society and justice agencies, the development of a code of conduct that is binding for all paralegals working in the criminal justice system;

(*e*) To specify the types of legal services that can be provided by paralegals and the types of services that must be provided exclusively by lawyers, unless such determination is within the competence of the courts or bar associations;

(*f*) To ensure access for accredited paralegals who are assigned to provide legal aid to police stations and prisons, facilities of detention or pretrial detention centres, and so forth;

(*g*) To allow, in accordance with national law and regulations, court-accredited and duly trained paralegals to participate in court proceedings and advise the accused when there are no lawyers available to do so.

### Guideline 15
### Regulation and oversight of legal aid providers

69. In adherence to principle 12, and subject to existing national legislation ensuring transparency and accountability, States, in cooperation with professional associations, should:

(*a*) Ensure that criteria are set for the accreditation of legal aid providers;

(*b*) Ensure that legal aid providers are subject to applicable professional codes of conduct, with appropriate sanctions for infractions;

(*c*) Establish rules to ensure that legal aid providers are not allowed to request any payment from the beneficiaries of legal aid, except when authorized to do so;

(*d*) Ensure that disciplinary complaints against legal aid providers are reviewed by impartial bodies;

(*e*) Establish appropriate oversight mechanisms for legal aid providers, in particular with a view to preventing corruption.

### Guideline 16
### Partnerships with non-State legal aid service providers and universities

70. States should, where appropriate, engage in partnerships with non-State legal aid service providers, including non-governmental organizations and other service providers.

71. To this end, States should take measures, in consultation with civil society and justice agencies and professional associations:

(*a*) To recognize in their legal systems the role to be played by non-State actors in providing legal aid services to meet the needs of the population;

(*b*) To set quality standards for legal aid services and support the development of standardized training programmes for non-State legal aid service providers;

(*c*) To establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure the quality of legal aid services, in particular those provided at no cost;

(*d*) To work with all legal aid service providers to increase outreach, quality and impact and facilitate access to legal aid in all parts of the country and in all communities, especially in rural and economically and socially disadvantaged areas and among minority groups;

(*e*) To diversify legal aid service providers by adopting a comprehensive approach, for example, by encouraging the establishment of centres to provide legal aid services that are staffed by lawyers and paralegals and by entering into agreements with law societies and bar associations, university law clinics and non-governmental and other organizations to provide legal aid services.

72. States should, where appropriate, also take measures:

(*a*) To encourage and support the establishment of legal aid clinics in law departments within universities to promote clinical and public interest law programmes among faculty members and the student body, including in the accredited curriculum of universities;

(*b*) To encourage and provide incentives to law students to participate, under proper supervision and in accordance with national law or practice, in a legal aid clinic or other legal aid community scheme, as part of their academic curriculum or professional development;

(*c*) To develop, where they do not already exist, student practice rules that allow students to practise in the courts under the supervision of qualified lawyers or faculty staff, provided that such rules are developed in consultation with and accepted by the competent courts or bodies that regulate the practice of law before the courts;

(*d*) To develop, in jurisdictions requiring law students to undertake legal internships, rules for them to be allowed to practise in the courts under the supervision of qualified lawyers.

### Guideline 17
### Research and data

73. States should ensure that mechanisms to track, monitor and evaluate legal aid are established and should continually strive to improve the provision of legal aid.

74. For this purpose, States could introduce measures:

(*a*) To conduct regular research and collection of data disaggregated by the gender, age, socioeconomic status and geographical distribution of legal aid recipients and to publish the findings of such research;

(*b*) To share good practices in the provision of legal aid;

(*c*) To monitor the efficient and effective delivery of legal aid in accordance with international human rights standards;

(*d*) To provide cross-cultural, culturally appropriate, gender-sensitive and age-appropriate training to legal aid providers;

(*e*) To improve communication, coordination and cooperation between all justice agencies, especially at the local level, to identify local problems and to agree on solutions to improve the provision of legal aid.

### Guideline 18
### Technical assistance

75. Technical assistance based on needs and priorities identified by requesting States should be provided by relevant intergovernmental organizations, such as the United Nations, bilateral donors and competent non-governmental organizations, as well as by States in the framework of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, with a view to building and enhancing the national capacities and institutions for the development and implementation of legal aid systems and criminal justice reforms, where appropriate.

## RESOLUTION 67/188

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[615]

### 67/188. Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the long-standing concern of the United Nations for the humanization of criminal justice and the protection of human rights,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, and especially of promoting their implementation,

*Emphasizing* that in the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,[616] Member States recognized that an effective, fair and humane criminal justice system was based on the commitment to uphold the protection of human rights in the administration of justice and the prevention and control of crime and acknowledged the value and impact of the United Nations standards and norms in designing and implementing national crime prevention and criminal justice policies, laws, procedures and programmes,

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[615] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[616] Resolution 65/230, annex.

*Recalling* its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, entitled "Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", in which it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to establish an open-ended intergovernmental expert group to exchange information on best practices, as well as national legislation and existing international law, and on the revision of existing United Nations standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners so that they reflected recent advances in correctional science and best practices, with a view to making recommendations to the Commission on possible next steps, and requested the expert group to report to the Commission on progress in its work,

*Aware* that the penitentiary system is one of the key components of the criminal justice system and that the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners[617] have been of value and influence in the development of correctional laws, policies and practices,

*Convinced* that prisons should be used as a punishment only for individuals who have committed serious offences or when necessary to protect the public,

*Convinced also* that specific efforts should be made to use alternative measures, in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules),[618]

*Taking into account* the progressive development of international instruments pertaining to the treatment of prisoners since 1955, in particular the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[619] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[620]

*Taking into account also* the relevance of the procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1984/47 of 25 May 1984, the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment,[621] the Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners,[622] the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty[623] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[624]

*Taking into account further* the work carried out by the Latin American Standing Committee of the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation for the revision and updating of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, presented to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Salvador, Brazil, from 12 to 19 April 2010, as well as the 2011 study on the extent of implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules by African countries, conducted by the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the development by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the handbook for prison leaders, the handbook on the international transfer of sentenced persons, the handbook on strategies to reduce prison overcrowding (in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross) and the handbook on the prevention of recidivism and the social reintegration of offenders,

1. *Expresses appreciation* for the replies of Member States to the request to exchange information on best practices and on the revision of existing United Nations standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners;

2. *Takes note* of the work done by the high-level expert group meeting held in Santo Domingo from 3 to 5 August 2011 and the expert group meeting held in Vienna on 6 and 7 October 2011;

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[617] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, Volume I (First Part), *Universal Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIV.4 (Vol. I, Part 1)), sect. J, No. 34.

[618] Resolution 45/110, annex.

[619] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[620] Ibid., vol. 2375, No. 24841.

[621] Resolution 43/173, annex.

[622] Resolution 45/111, annex.

[623] Resolution 45/113, annex.

[624] Resolution 65/229, annex.

3. *Acknowledges* the work done by the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, which drew on the outcome of the two expert group meetings mentioned above;

4. *Recognizes* that the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,[617] adopted by the First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in 1955 and approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 663 C (XXIV) of 31 July 1957 and extended by the Council by its resolution 2076 (LXII) of 13 May 1977, have stood the test of time and that they remain the universally acknowledged minimum standards for the detention of prisoners;

5. *Also recognizes* that some areas of the Standard Minimum Rules could be reviewed so that the Rules reflect the latest advances in correctional science and good practices, provided that any changes to the Rules would not lower any existing standards;

6. *Takes cognizance* of the recommendations of the Expert Group,[625] and notes that the Expert Group identified the following preliminary areas for possible consideration:

(*a*) Respect for prisoners' inherent dignity and value as human beings;

(*b*) Medical and health services;

(*c*) Disciplinary action and punishment, including the role of medical staff, solitary confinement and reduction of diet;

(*d*) Investigation of all deaths in custody, as well as any signs or allegations of torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of prisoners;

(*e*) Protection and special needs of vulnerable groups deprived of their liberty, taking into consideration countries in difficult circumstances;

(*f*) The right of access to legal representation;

(*g*) Complaints and independent inspection;

(*h*) The replacement of outdated terminology;

(*i*) Training of relevant staff to implement the Standard Minimum Rules;

7. *Underscores* that the requirements and needs of prisoners with disabilities should be duly considered, as applicable, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[626]

8. *Authorizes* the Expert Group to continue its work, within its mandate, with a view to reporting on its progress to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-second session, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the required services and support are provided;

9. *Invites* Member States to actively participate in the next meeting of the Expert Group and to have a report prepared summarizing discussions and recommendations, including comments and concerns expressed by government experts and other participants;

10. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Argentina for its readiness to host the next meeting of the Expert Group;

11. *Takes note* of the work accomplished for the preparation of the conference room paper containing notes and comments on the Standard Minimum Rules, and recommends its early translation into all other official languages of the United Nations, as well as its wide dissemination;

12. *Encourages* Member States to promote the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);[624]

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[625] See E/CN.15/2012/18; the recommendations should be considered in the context of the deliberations of the meeting of the Expert Group.

[626] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

13. *Recommends* that Member States endeavour to reduce overcrowding and pretrial detention, where appropriate, and promote increased access to justice and legal defence mechanisms, reinforcing alternatives to imprisonment, which may include, inter alia, fines, community service, restorative justice and electronic monitoring, as well as supporting rehabilitation and reintegration programmes;

14. *Encourages* Member States to continue exchanging good practices, such as those regarding conflict resolution in detention facilities, including in the area of technical assistance, as well as identifying challenges faced in implementing the Standard Minimum Rules and sharing their experiences in dealing with those challenges, and to provide the relevant information to their experts participating in the Expert Group;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to promote the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice by, inter alia, providing advisory services and technical assistance to Member States on request, including assistance in criminal justice and law reform, and in the organization of training for law enforcement and criminal justice personnel and support in the administration and management of penal and penitentiary systems, thus contributing to the upgrading of their efficiency and capabilities;

16. *Reaffirms* the important role of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in contributing to the dissemination, promotion and practical application of the Standard Minimum Rules, in accordance with the procedures for the effective implementation of the Rules;[627]

17. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

## RESOLUTION 67/189

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[628]

### 67/189. Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 65/190 of 21 December 2010 and 66/181 of 19 December 2011,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[629] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[630] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

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[627] Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/47, annex.

[628] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[629] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[630] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

*Reaffirming further* the commitments undertaken by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted on 8 September 2006,[631] and its successive biennial reviews,[632]

*Emphasizing* that its resolution 65/187 of 21 December 2010 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and its resolution 65/228 of 21 December 2010 on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women, by which it adopted the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, have considerable implications for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme and its activities,

*Recalling* the adoption of its resolution 65/229 of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and encouraging in this regard efforts of Member States to conduct further study with a view to utilizing these practical measures,

*Recalling also* the adoption of its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010 on the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in which it endorsed the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,

*Recalling further* the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of its resolution 2012/17 of 26 July 2012 on follow-up to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/177 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[633] the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime,

*Taking into consideration* all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2012/12 to 2012/19 of 26 July 2012, and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/180 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to protect cultural property, especially with regard to its trafficking, in which it urged Member States and relevant institutions to reinforce and fully implement mechanisms to strengthen international cooperation, including mutual legal assistance, in order to combat all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, such as the theft, looting, damage, removal, pillage and destruction of cultural property, and to facilitate the recovery and the return of stolen and looted cultural property,

*Recalling also* the adoption of its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010 on the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, reaffirming the need for the full implementation of the Global Plan of Action, expressing the view that it will, inter alia, enhance cooperation and better coordination of efforts in fighting trafficking in persons and promote increased ratification and full implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[634] and welcoming the work of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

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[631] Resolution 60/288.

[632] See resolutions 62/272, 64/297 and 66/282.

[633] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[634] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

*Recalling further* that the main theme of the Thirteenth Congress will be "Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation",

*Acknowledging* the importance of the recent work under regional initiatives to combat the smuggling of migrants and the work of the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants established by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime at its fifth session,

*Reaffirming* resolution 6/2 of 19 October 2012 on promoting accession to and implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its sixth session,[635]

*Noting with appreciation* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking as threats to security and stability for the purpose of developing within the United Nations system an effective and comprehensive approach to transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Expressing its grave concern* at the negative effects of transnational organized crime, including smuggling of and trafficking in human beings, narcotic drugs and small arms and light weapons, on development, peace and security and human rights, and at the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime,

*Convinced* of the importance of preventing youth crime, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting child victims and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, and stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, as called for in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto,[636] where applicable, and in other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice, where appropriate,

*Concerned* by the serious challenges and threats posed by the illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and concerned about its links with other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking and other criminal activities, including terrorism,

*Deeply concerned* about the connections, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and emphasizing the need to enhance cooperation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen responses to this evolving challenge,

*Concerned* about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their proceeds into the economy,

*Recognizing* that actions against transnational organized crime and terrorism are a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

*Emphasizing* that transnational organized crime must be addressed in full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

*Expressing deep concern* about environmental crimes, including trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and emphasizing the need to combat such crimes by strengthening international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

*Encouraging* Member States to develop, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner,

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[635] See CTOC/COP/2012/15, sect. I.A.

[636] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 1577, 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

*Recognizing* the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime between all relevant priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

*Stressing* that social development should be an integral element of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

*Recognizing* that, thanks to its broad membership and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime offers an important basis for international cooperation, inter alia for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation, and represents in this regard a useful tool that should be further utilized,

*Mindful* of the need to ensure universal adherence to and full implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and urging States parties to make full and effective use of these instruments,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

*Recognizing* the general progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform, corruption, organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism, kidnapping and trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, as well as drug trafficking and international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance,

*Reiterating its concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolution 66/181;[637]

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[629] represent the most important tools of the international community to fight transnational organized crime;

3. *Notes with appreciation* that the number of States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime has reached 172, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combat transnational organized crime;

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption[630] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their full implementation;

5. *Underlines* the need for the urgent adoption of the mechanism to review the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto aimed at assisting States parties in the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, urges States parties to continue to be actively engaged in this endeavour, on the basis of the work already accomplished by the open-ended intergovernmental working group on the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and encourages Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to facilitate technical assistance for the purposes of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, taking into account the tools developed for such purposes, such as the omnibus self-assessment checklist, among others;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime and responses to it by Member States, the international community and the private sector, including the exchange of information on national legislation, best practices, technical assistance and international cooperation, with a view to examining options to strengthen existing and to

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[637] A/67/156.

propose new national and international, legal or other responses to cybercrime, and encourages the expert group to enhance its efforts to complete its work and to present the outcome of the study to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in due course;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices;

8. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments and data collection and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;

9. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, and stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States;

10. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen their efforts to cooperate, as appropriate, at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels to counter transnational organized crime effectively;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its efforts, within existing resources and within its mandate, in providing technical assistance and advisory services for the implementation of its regional and subregional programmes in a coordinated manner with relevant Member States and regional and subregional organizations;

12. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to strengthening the capacity of national criminal justice systems to investigate and prosecute all forms of crime, to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems;

13. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants on its meeting held in Vienna from 30 May to 1 June 2012,[638] and encourages States parties to implement the recommendations contained therein;

14. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and internationally accepted standards, including, where applicable, recommendations of relevant intergovernmental bodies, inter alia, the Financial Action Task Force and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations against money-laundering;

15. *Urges* Member States to strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation to enable the return of assets illicitly acquired from corruption to the countries of origin, upon their request, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue providing assistance to bilateral, regional and international efforts for that purpose, and also urges Member States to combat and penalize corruption, as well as the laundering of its proceeds;

16. *Calls upon* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, particularly those related

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[638] CTOC/COP/WG.7/2012/6.

to the States concerned in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as to other requesting States in need of urgent action, and to ensure that the competent authorities of the requesting States have adequate resources to execute the requests, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of the assets for sustainable development and stability;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to foster international and regional cooperation, including by facilitating the development of regional networks active in the field of legal and law enforcement cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime, where appropriate, and by promoting cooperation among all such networks, including by providing technical assistance where it is required;

18. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

19. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

20. *Draws attention* to the emerging policy issues identified in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[637] namely, piracy, cybercrime, the use of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children, trafficking in cultural property, illicit financial flows, environmental crime, including illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, as well as identity-related crime, and invites the Office to explore, within its mandate, ways and means of addressing those issues, bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/12 on the strategy for the period 2012–2015 for the Office;

21. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue strengthening the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data and information, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

22. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue developing, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge on crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

23. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to develop national and regional strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to address effectively transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, as well as corruption and terrorism;

24. *Urges* States parties to use the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, especially in returning such proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention, and invites States parties to exchange information on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, in accordance with their national laws, and to coordinate administrative and other measures taken, as appropriate, for the prevention, early detection and punishment of such offences;

25. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address its links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, technical assistance;

26. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against transnational organized crime, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

27. *Encourages* Member States to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in continuing to provide targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy by sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

28. *Notes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and also welcomes the outcome of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

29. *Encourages* States parties to continue to provide full support to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, including providing information to the conferences of the parties to the conventions regarding compliance with the treaties;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in accordance with its mandate;

31. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

32. *Encourages* Member States to give full effect to the resolutions on the prevention of corruption, on international cooperation and on asset recovery adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its fourth session[639] and to support the work carried out by its established subsidiary bodies in this respect;

33. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime at its sixth session;[635]

34. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and invites Member States to provide the Office with appropriate resources for its mandate;

35. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen the rule of law, taking also into account the work undertaken by the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group of the Secretariat and other relevant United Nations bodies;

36. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on strengthening access to legal aid in criminal justice systems on its meeting held in Vienna from 16 to 18 November 2011,[640] and welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems;[641]

37. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals and handbooks developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

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[639] See CAC/COSP/2011/14, sect. I.A.

[640] E/CN.15/2012/17.

[641] Resolution 67/187, annex.

38. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

39. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with the high priority accorded to it and in accordance with the increasing demand for its services, in particular with regard to the provision of increased assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses;

41. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the report referred to in paragraph 40 above information on the status of ratifications or accessions to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.

## RESOLUTION 67/190

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[642]

### 67/190. Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

*The General Assembly*,

*Reiterating its concern* that, despite sustained measures taken at the international, regional and national levels, trafficking in persons remains one of the grave challenges facing the international community, which also impairs the enjoyment of human rights and needs a more concerted collective and comprehensive international response,

*Recalling* the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[643] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[644] which provided the definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[645] and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,[646]

*Recalling also* its resolution 64/178 of 18 December 2009 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and other relevant General Assembly resolutions on trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,[647]

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[642] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[643] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[644] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[645] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[646] Ibid., vol. 266, No. 3822.

[647] Resolutions 55/67, 58/137, 59/166, 61/144, 61/180, 63/156 and 63/194.

*Reaffirming* its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010 on the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/33 of 25 July 2008 on strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons and previous Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,

*Affirming* Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 20/3 of 15 April 2011, entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons",[648]

*Affirming also* Human Rights Council resolution 20/1 of 5 July 2012, entitled "Trafficking in persons, especially women and children: access to effective remedies for trafficked persons and their right to an effective remedy for human rights violations",[649] and other relevant Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,[650]

*Recognizing* that, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention is established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, by facilitating the development and exchange of relevant information, programmes and practices and by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, and recognizing also that each State party shall provide the Conference of the Parties with information on its programmes, plans and practices, as well as legislative and administrative measures to implement the Convention,

*Recognizing also* the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on good practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

*Recognizing further* that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations is essential for effectively countering the threat of trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

*Recognizing* that victims of trafficking are often subject to multiple forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of gender, age, disability, ethnicity, culture and religion, as well as national or social origin, and that these forms of discrimination may themselves fuel trafficking in persons, and that women and children without nationality or without birth registration are particularly vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

*Recognizing also* the important role of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in fostering coordination and cooperation in the global fight against trafficking in persons, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other intergovernmental organizations, within their existing mandates,

*Recognizing further* the need to continue fostering a global partnership against trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery and the need to continue to work towards an enhanced comprehensive and coordinated approach to prevent and combat trafficking and to protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms,

*Stressing* the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of trafficking in persons and to reintegrate victims into the community by taking into account the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking[651] and the commentary thereon developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as the Guidelines on the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking developed by the United Nations Children's Fund,

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[648] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 10* (E/2011/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[649] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[650] Human Rights Council resolutions 8/12, 11/3, 14/2 and 17/1.

[651] E/2002/68/Add.1.

*Recognizing* that poverty, unemployment, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination and marginalization are some of the contributing factors that make persons vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

*Recognizing also* that the ongoing global economic crises and increasing inequalities and social exclusion and their consequences are likely to further aggravate the conditions that render people and communities vulnerable to trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants,

*Affirming* that capacity-building is a very important component in combating trafficking in persons, and in this regard stressing the need to intensify international cooperation to combat trafficking in persons, as well as technical assistance for countries aimed at strengthening their ability to prevent all forms of trafficking, including supporting their development programmes,

*Aware* of the need to raise public awareness with the aim of eliminating the demand for trafficking in persons, in particular for the purpose of sexual exploitation and forced labour,

*Reaffirming* the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in 2010, to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons, to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[652] which focuses, inter alia, on issues of trafficking in persons,

*Welcoming* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[653]

*Taking note* of the outcomes of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 15 to 19 October 2012,[654] and the outcomes of the fourth session of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, held in Vienna from 10 to 12 October 2011,[655]

*Reaffirming* the importance of humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons, including through governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established in compliance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, as well as the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery,

*Welcoming* the interactive dialogue of the General Assembly on the theme "Fighting human trafficking: partnership and innovation to end violence against women and girls", held in New York on 3 April 2012, which provided an opportunity for Member States, international organizations, civil society and the private sector to unite as one in the global fight against trafficking in persons,

*Welcoming also* the signing, ratification and accession by a number of Member States in the period from 2010 to 2012 to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which brings the number of parties to 172, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which brings the number of parties to 153,

1. *Affirms* that trafficking in persons violates and impairs the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and requires a concerted international assessment and response and genuine multilateral cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for its eradication;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[643] and the Protocol to Prevent,

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[652] A/67/156.

[653] A/67/261.

[654] See CTOC/COP/2012/15.

[655] See CTOC/COP/WG.4/2011/8.

Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[644] taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and also urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

3. *Also urges* Member States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[645] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[656] the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,[646] and the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29),[657] the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)[658] and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),[659] of the International Labour Organization, and also urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the steps taken by human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the serious crime of trafficking in persons, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to continue their efforts to criminalize trafficking in persons in all its forms, including for labour exploitation and sexual exploitation of children, to take measures to criminalize child sex tourism, to condemn the practice of trafficking in persons and to investigate, prosecute, condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries while providing protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking with full respect for their human rights, and invites Member States to continue to support those United Nations agencies and international organizations that are actively involved in victim protection;

6. *Encourages* all stakeholders, including the private sector, to strengthen the coordination of efforts to prevent and combat trafficking and to protect, assist and provide effective remedies to the victims of trafficking, including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and regional and bilateral initiatives that promote cooperation and collaboration;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of comparable data disaggregated by type of trafficking in persons, including sex and age, as well as of strengthening national capacity for gathering, analysing and reporting such data, and welcomes the efforts of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, drawing on the comparative advantages of the respective agencies, to share information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities of the partner agencies with Governments, other international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies;

8. *Acknowledges* the important work on data collection and analysis conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime under its Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings, by the International Organization for Migration through its Global Counter-Trafficking Module database and by the International Labour Organization through its global database on forced labour, trafficking and slavery-like practice;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates on combating trafficking in persons, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the purpose of providing assistance to Member States upon request;

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[656] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[657] Ibid., vol. 39, No. 612.

[658] Ibid., vol. 320, No. 4648.

[659] Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

10. *Welcomes* the work done by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and expresses its full support for its activities in fighting trafficking in persons, and looks forward to the launch, within existing resources, of the report on global patterns in trafficking in persons, produced by the Office, as called for by the General Assembly in resolution 64/293, at United Nations Headquarters no later than January 2013;

11. *Invites* States and all other relevant stakeholders to continue contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and acknowledges previous and ongoing contributions to other funding sources that support efforts to combat trafficking in persons;

12. *Recalls* its decision to conduct, in 2013, an appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[660] and therefore decides to convene, within existing resources, a high-level meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, no later than July 2013, in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of the relevant legal instruments;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Member States, to take all necessary measures to arrange the high-level meeting, and invites the President of the General Assembly to appoint two co-facilitators to assist him in conducting open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the meeting, including on the participation of international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, whose role is emphasized in the Global Plan of Action;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the high-level meeting;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, within existing reporting obligations, the practice of including a section on the implementation by the United Nations system of the Global Plan of Action in his report to the General Assembly under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice, and further requests the Secretary-General to include therein a section on the implementation of the present resolution, bearing in mind the scope of previous reports on this issue.[661]

## RESOLUTION 67/191

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[662]

### 67/191. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 66/182 of 19 December 2011 and all other relevant resolutions,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[663]

*Bearing in mind* that weaknesses in crime prevention lead to subsequent difficulties at the level of crime control mechanisms, and bearing in mind also the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

*Aware* of the devastating impact of new and more dynamic crime trends on the national economies of African States, such as the high levels of transnational organized crime being recorded in Africa, including the utilization of digital technology to commit all types of cybercrime, illicit trafficking in cultural property and drugs, piracy and money-laundering, and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

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[660] Resolution 64/293.

[661] A/63/90, A/64/130 and A/65/113.

[662] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Grenada, New Zealand, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Uganda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[663] A/67/155.

*Emphasizing* that combating crime is a collective endeavour to meet the global challenge of organized crime and that investment of necessary resources in crime prevention is important to that aim and contributes to sustainable development,

*Noting with concern* that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging the challenges that Africa faces in litigation processes and the management of correctional institutions,

*Recognizing* that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for all professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

*Bearing in mind* the Revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007–2012), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

*Recognizing* the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies,

*Emphasizing* the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in the process of achieving effective crime prevention policies,

*Welcoming* the appointment of the new Director of the Institute in May 2012, welcoming also the concrete proposals by the Secretary-General to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute, and noting the expectation of the Secretary-General that this appointment will give a boost to the efficient management, policy development, guidance and activities of the Institute,

*Noting with concern* that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Also commends* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in strengthening its working relationship with the Institute by supporting and involving the Institute in the implementation of a number of activities, including those contained in the Revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007–2012), on strengthening the rule of law and criminal justice systems in Africa;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Also reiterates* the benefits, in some cases, of the utilization of alternative remedial measures, where appropriate, applying standards of ethical conduct and using local traditions, counselling and other emerging correctional rehabilitation measures, consistent with the obligations of States under international law;

5. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries which are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

6. *Encourages* the Institute, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focus attention on the coordination of activities that promote development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies;

7. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to continue to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

8. *Awaits* the implementation of the decision of the Governing Board of the Institute, at its eleventh ordinary session, held in Nairobi on 27 and 28 April 2011, to carry out a review of the Institute to ensure that it can fulfil its mandate and assume a more prominent role in dealing with existing crime;

9. *Welcomes* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

10. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue adopting concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

11. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[664] as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[665]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate, bearing in mind that the precarious financial situation of the Institute greatly undermines its capacity to deliver services effectively;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

14. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute, and requests the Institute to provide the annual report on its activities to the Office as well as to the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue making concrete proposals, including for the provision of additional core Professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute, and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/192

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/458, para. 41)[666]

### 67/192. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009 and 65/169 of 20 December 2010,

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[664] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[665] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[666] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Australia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Sudan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[667]

*Recognizing* that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

*Recognizing also* that supportive national legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices, facilitating asset recovery and returning the proceeds of corruption to legitimate owners,

*Bearing in mind* that the return of assets is one of the main objectives and a fundamental principle of the Convention and that the States parties to the Convention are obligated to afford one another the widest measure of cooperation in that regard,

*Recalling* the purposes of the Convention, including to promote the integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property,

*Reaffirming* the obligations set out in chapter V of the Convention, in order to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner the international transfer of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery,

*Acknowledging* that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels, including at the local level, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III,

*Recognizing* that the success of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption depends on the full commitment and constructive engagement of all States parties to the Convention in a progressive and comprehensive process, and recalling in that regard resolution 3/1 of 13 November 2009 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[668] including the terms of reference of the Mechanism contained in the annex to that resolution,

*Bearing in mind* that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, if their efforts in this area are to be effective,

*Reaffirming its concern* about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the Convention,

*Noting* the efforts made by all States parties to the Convention in tracing, freezing and recovering their stolen assets, in particular States parties in the Middle East and North Africa, taking into consideration recent developments in those States in fighting corruption, and the efforts of and willingness expressed by the international community to assist them in the recovery of those assets in order to preserve stability and sustainable development,

*Recognizing* that States continue to face challenges in recovering assets owing to, inter alia, differences among legal systems, the complexity of multijurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, lack of familiarity with the mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of corruption proceeds, and noting the particular challenges posed in recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions and their family members and close associates,

*Concerned* about the difficulties, particularly the practical difficulties, that both requested and requesting States face in asset recovery, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of stolen assets for sustainable development and stability, and noting the difficulty of providing information establishing a link between proceeds of corruption in the requested State and the crime committed in the requesting State, which in many cases can be difficult to prove,

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[667] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[668] See CAC/COSP/2009/15, sect. I.A.

*Reiterating its concern* about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[669]

2. *Condemns* corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[667]

4. *Welcomes* the significant number of Member States that have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and calls upon all States parties to fully implement the Convention as soon as possible;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the work carried out under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and by the Implementation Review Group, and urges Member States to continue to support this work and make every possible effort to provide comprehensive information and adhere to the timelines for review as contained in the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews;[670]

6. *Also notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery and on the Prevention of Corruption and the open-ended dialogue with international organizations, welcomes the convening of open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings on international cooperation,[671] and calls upon States parties to the Convention to support the work of those bodies, including the work of the Implementation Review Group on technical assistance, as well as the continuing work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery and on the Prevention of Corruption;

7. *Renews* the commitment of all States parties to the Convention to effective national action and international cooperation to give full effect to chapter V of the Convention and to contribute effectively to the recovery of the proceeds of corruption;

8. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption and to work for the prompt recovery of such assets in accordance with the principles of the Convention, including chapter V;

9. *Urges* States parties to the Convention that have not already done so to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention and, where appropriate, focal points for asset recovery, and also calls upon States parties to give timely consideration to the requests for assistance made by such authorities;

10. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to use and promote informal channels of communication, in particular prior to making formal requests for mutual legal assistance, by, inter alia, designating officials or

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[669] A/67/96.

[670] CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7, annex I.

[671] CAC/COSP/2011/14, sect. I.A, resolution 4/2.

institutions, as appropriate, with technical expertise in international cooperation in asset recovery to assist their counterparts in effectively meeting requirements for formal mutual legal assistance;

11. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to remove barriers to asset recovery, including by simplifying their legal procedures and preventing abuse of those procedures;

12. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 24 to 28 October 2011, and calls upon States parties to fully implement the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties;[672]

13. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the identification and recovery of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption and to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention, and to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the extradition of individuals accused of the predicate offences, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention;

14. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that procedures for international cooperation allow for the seizure and restraint of assets for a time period sufficient to preserve those assets in full pending proceedings in another State and to allow or expand cooperation in the enforcement of foreign judgements, including through awareness-raising for judicial authorities, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

15. *Encourages* Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their national legal system, to consider assisting each other in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption;

16. *Also encourages* Member States to fight against all forms of corruption by increasing transparency, integrity, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors, and recognizes in this regard the need to prevent impunity by prosecuting corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to cooperate in their extradition, in accordance with the obligations under the Convention;

17. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracing of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, in accordance with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

18. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to give timely consideration to mutual legal assistance requests relating to the identification, freezing, tracing and/or recovery of proceeds of corruption, and to respond effectively to requests for exchange of information related to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instruments referred to in article 31 of the Convention, situated in the territory of the requested State party, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including article 40;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level, in accordance with the Convention;

20. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and countries of destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, in accordance with the Convention;

21. *Urges* all Member States to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption, in accordance with the Convention;

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[672] CAC/COSP/2011/14, sect. I.A.

22. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close cooperation between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties;[673]

24. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, and emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability;

25. *Urges* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery and the return of such proceeds in accordance with the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting anti-corruption efforts, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

26. *Urges* States parties and signatories to the Convention to strengthen the capacity of legislators, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors to deal with matters relating to asset recovery, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance, confiscation, criminal confiscation and, where appropriate, non-conviction-based forfeiture, in accordance with national law and the convention, and civil proceedings, and to give the highest consideration to providing technical assistance in those fields, upon request;

27. *Encourages* Member States to exchange and share with each other, including through regional and international organizations, as appropriate, information on lessons learned and good practices, as well as information related to technical assistance activities and initiatives in order to strengthen international efforts to prevent and combat corruption;

28. *Notes* the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank and its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

29. *Welcomes* the establishment of the International Anti-Corruption Academy as a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research in the anti-corruption field, including in the area of asset recovery, and looks forward to its continued efforts in this regard to promote the goals and implementation of the Convention;

30. *Takes note* of the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to accept the offer by the Government of the Russian Federation to host its sixth session in 2015,[674] and reiterates its appreciation for the offer by the Government of Panama to host the fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties in 2013;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice a section entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on its fifth session.

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[673] Ibid., resolution 4/1.

[674] Ibid., sect. I.B, decision 4/1.

## RESOLUTION 67/193

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/459, para. 10)[675]

### 67/193. International cooperation against the world drug problem

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[676] the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,[677] the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[678] the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[679] and the joint ministerial statement adopted at the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[680]

*Reaffirming also* the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[681] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and calling upon States to take the measures necessary to fully implement the actions set out therein, with a view to attaining, in a timely manner, their goals and targets,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/115 of 9 December 1998, in which it urged Governments, the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations to assist and support, upon request, transit States, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, aiming at enhancing their capacity to fight the illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[682] the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome addressing the world drug problem,[683] the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS[684] and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 66/183 of 19 December 2011 and those on regional and international cooperation to prevent the diversion and smuggling of precursors,

*Recalling further* the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of its resolution 2012/12 of 26 July 2012 on the strategy for the period 2012–2015 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretary-General to develop, within the United Nations system, an effective and comprehensive approach to transnational organized crime and the world drug problem, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard,

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[675] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[676] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[677] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[678] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[679] Resolution 54/132, annex.

[680] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 8* (E/2003/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C.

[681] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[682] Resolution 55/2.

[683] See resolution 60/1.

[684] Resolution 60/262, annex.

*Welcoming* the efforts made by Member States to comply with the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[685] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[686] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[687]

*Welcoming also* the centennial of the International Opium Convention of 23 January 1912,[688] the first-ever multilateral drug convention, which forms the basis for the international drug control system, which includes the three above-mentioned international drug control conventions,

*Recognizing* the importance both of the universality of the three international drug control conventions against the illicit use and trafficking of drugs and of their implementation,

*Welcoming* the measures taken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop a thematic and regional programme approach to its activities, and noting the progress in the implementation of such an approach,

*Recalling* all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-fifth session,[689]

*Gravely concerned* that, despite continuing increased efforts by States, relevant organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the world drug problem continues to constitute a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humanity, in particular children and young people and their families, and to the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socioeconomic and political stability and sustainable development,

*Deeply concerned* about the need to take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children and young people against the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as defined in the relevant treaties, and to prevent the use of children and young people in the illicit production of and trafficking in such substances, and urging Governments to implement Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 53/10 of 12 March 2010,[690]

*Recognizing* the importance of preventing and addressing drug-related youth crime, considering its impact on the social and economic development of societies, and supporting the rehabilitation and treatment of young offenders and their reintegration into society,

*Stressing* the importance of the focus placed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-fifth session on the issues of the prevention of drug abuse, the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances and the treatment, rehabilitation, reintegration and recovery of drug-dependent persons,

*Noting with grave concern* the global increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances, such as those indicated in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 53/13 of 12 March 2010[690] and 55/1 of 16 March 2012,[689] as well as the increasing sophistication of the transnational organized criminal groups engaged in their manufacture and distribution,

*Noting with grave concern also* the increased abuse and manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide, as well as the proliferation of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the emergence of new methods of diversion used by organized criminal groups,

*Recognizing* that the use of new psychoactive substances that are not controlled under the international drug control treaties and that may pose potential public-health risks has emerged in recent years in several regions of the world, and noting the increasing number of reports about the production or manufacture of substances, most commonly herbal mixtures, including synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists that have psychoactive effects similar to those produced by cannabis, and psychoactive substances that are increasingly being marketed as legal alternatives to internationally controlled drugs,

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[685] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[686] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[687] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[688] League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. VIII, No. 222.

[689] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2012, Supplement No. 8* (E/2012/28), chap. I, sect. B.

[690] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 8* (E/2010/28), chap. I, sect. C.

*Recognizing also* the critical importance of forensic and scientific laboratory and treatment centre data and qualitative information in understanding the problem of illicit synthetic drugs and the range of products available on the illicit market,

*Noting* the need to promote adequate availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and abuse, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and recalling in that regard Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 53/4 of 12 March 2010[690] and 54/6 of 25 March 2011,[691]

*Recognizing* that sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in demand reduction and supply reduction have shown that positive results can be achieved, and expressing its appreciation for the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels in this regard,

*Recognizing also* the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, together with the International Narcotics Control Board, as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and recognizing further the need to promote and facilitate the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

*Reaffirming* that countering the world drug problem in all its aspects requires a political commitment to reducing supply, as an integral component of a balanced and comprehensive drug control strategy, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[692] including the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, also adopted at that session,

*Reaffirming equally* that reducing illicit drug use and its consequences requires a political commitment to efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that integrate a comprehensive public-health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, rehabilitation and social reintegration efforts, and that are age- and gender-sensitive, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, and with the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session, and other relevant Assembly resolutions,

*Conscious* of the need to raise public awareness of the risks and threats posed to all societies by the different aspects of the world drug problem,

*Recalling* the adoption, by its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and the decision, contained in the Declaration, that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Declaration and its Plan of Action, the recommendation that the Economic and Social Council devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem and the recommendation that the General Assembly hold a special session to address the world drug problem,

*Reaffirming* that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

1. *Reiterates its call upon* States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[681] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

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[691] Ibid., *2011, Supplement No. 8* (E/2011/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[692] Resolutions S-20/4 A–E.

2. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[693] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[694] on human rights, and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

4. *Encourages* Member States to give adequate consideration to the negative effects of the world drug problem and its consequences on development and on society in general;

5. *Undertakes* to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

6. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to promoting, developing, reviewing or strengthening effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, rehabilitation and social reintegration efforts, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account the specific needs of women and the particular challenges posed by high-risk drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, and commits Member States to investing increased resources in ensuring access to those interventions on a non-discriminatory basis, including in detention facilities, bearing in mind that those interventions should also consider vulnerabilities that undermine human development, such as poverty and social marginalization;

7. *Notes with great concern* the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, and reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to tackling those problems in the context of comprehensive, complementary and multisectoral drug demand reduction strategies, in particular such strategies targeting children, young people and their families, also notes with great concern the alarming rise in the incidence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among injecting drug users, reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to working towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions and, when applicable, the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and requests the Office to carry out its mandate in this area in close cooperation with relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

8. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate, to develop national responses to address the issue of drug-affected driving by, inter alia, exchanging information and best practices on effective responses, including through engagement with the international scientific and legal communities;

9. *Encourages* Member States to promote, in accordance with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 53/4[690] and 54/6,[691] the adequate availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion and abuse, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their efforts in that regard;

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[693] Resolution 217 A (III).

[694] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

10. *Urges* all Member States to enact comprehensive measures aimed at stemming the abuse of prescription drugs, in particular through the establishment of awareness-raising initiatives targeting the general public and health-care providers;

11. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and the progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, notes with great concern the continuing illicit production of and trafficking in opium, the continuing illicit manufacture of and trafficking in cocaine, the increasing illicit production of and trafficking in cannabis, the ongoing global spread of the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants and the increasing diversion of precursors, as well as the related distribution and use of illicit drugs, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle those global challenges in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance;

12. *Expresses its concern* that, despite the efforts of Member States and the international community, the extent of illicit drug use has remained stable, although patterns of abuse, production and trafficking continue to shift from country to country;

13. *Stresses* that it is absolutely imperative for Member States to strengthen international efforts in order to achieve more effective results in countering the world drug problem;

14. *Invites* Member States to take appropriate measures so as to strengthen international cooperation and the exchange of information regarding the identification of new routes and modi operandi of organized criminal groups dedicated to the diversion or smuggling of substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular with respect to their trafficking via the Internet, and to continue to notify the International Narcotics Control Board of such information;

15. *Continues to encourage* Member States to promote, in accordance with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 53/11 of 12 March 2010,[690] the sharing of information on the potential abuse of and trafficking in synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists, as well as the sharing of information with regard to patterns of use, risks to public health, forensic data and the regulation of new psychoactive substances;

16. *Encourages* Member States to adopt, where necessary, measures to strengthen public awareness of the risks, threats and negative impacts to society posed by the abuse of drugs;

17. *Recognizes* that:

(*a*) Sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances require international cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility and an integrated and balanced approach, taking into account the rule of law and, where appropriate, security concerns, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*b*) Such crop control strategies include, inter alia, alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, eradication and law enforcement measures;

(*c*) Such crop control strategies should be in full conformity with article 14 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[687] and appropriately coordinated and phased in accordance with national policies in order to achieve the sustainable eradication of illicit crops, noting furthermore the need for Member States to undertake to increase long-term investment in such strategies, coordinated with other development measures, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication in affected rural areas, taking due account of the traditional licit uses of crops where there is historical evidence of such use and giving due consideration to the protection of the environment;

18. *Also recognizes* the significant role played by developing countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, in promoting best practices and lessons learned from such programmes, and invites them to continue sharing those best practices with States affected by illicit crop cultivation, including those emerging from conflict, with a view to using them, where appropriate, in accordance with the national specificities of each State;

19. *Urges* Member States to intensify their cooperation with and assistance to transit States affected by illicit drug trafficking, directly or through the competent regional and international organizations, in accordance with

article 10 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, and on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and the need for all States to promote and implement measures to counter the drug problem in all its aspects with an integrated and balanced approach;

20. *Requests* the international community, in particular the countries of destination, to continue to provide, on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility, urgent and sufficient technical assistance and support to the most affected transit States, in full cooperation with national authorities, in order to promote the capacities of such States to counter the flow of illicit drugs;

21. *Reiterates* the urgent need for Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation in order to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, money-laundering, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, terrorism and the financing of terrorism, and to the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever-changing means used by transnational criminal organizations, including the corruption of State officials, to avoid detection and prosecution;

22. *Recognizes* the increasing links between drug trafficking and the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms in some regions of the world and the need to prevent the spread of that problem to other regions, and urges Member States to take adequate measures, consistent with their international treaty obligations and other relevant international standards, to fully cooperate in preventing the acquisition and use of firearms and ammunition by criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking and in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in such firearms and ammunition;

23. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States to combat money-laundering through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with the United Nations-related instruments and internationally accepted standards, including, where applicable, recommendations of relevant intergovernmental bodies, inter alia, the Financial Action Task Force and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations against money-laundering;

24. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against drug trafficking, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support for national and regional efforts in combating the world drug problem;

25. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and relevant regional organizations involved in combating and addressing the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards, and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage;

26. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, upon request, to continue providing technical assistance to Member States so as to enhance capacity in countering the world drug problem, including enhancing the analytical work of laboratories, by carrying out training programmes to develop indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, enhance or develop new national indicators and instruments, and invites Member States to invest, where necessary and taking into account specific needs and available resources, in capacity-building and quality-enhancing activities for the collection and reporting of information, and to participate in joint cooperation efforts organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and/or by other national, regional or international organizations and bodies, aimed at the exchange of technical knowledge of experts in the area of data collection, analysis and evaluation and of practical experience in the area of drug data;

27. *Recognizes* the need to collect relevant data and information regarding international cooperation for countering the world drug problem at all levels, and urges Member States to support dialogue through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to address this issue;

28. *Urges* Member States to regularly report data and information related to all aspects of the world drug problem to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through the annual report questionnaires, including the data on significant individual drug seizures, as mandated by article 18 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[685] and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central

policymaking body of the United Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

29. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts in supporting States to establish, upon request, operational frameworks essential for communication within and across national borders and in facilitating the exchange of information on and analysis of drug trafficking trends, with a view to increasing knowledge about the world drug problem at the national, regional and international levels, recognizes the importance of integrating laboratories and providing scientific support to drug control frameworks and of treating quality analytical data as a primary source of information worldwide, and urges coordination with other international entities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

30. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, including with a view to assisting Member States with the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at the high-level segment of its fifty-second session and subsequently adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, as well as with the full implementation of relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission;

31. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and emphasizes the need to improve the cost-effective utilization of resources by the Office, and requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates;

32. *Takes note* of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10 of 25 March 2011[691] and 54/17 of 13 December 2011[695] on the recommendations of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and encourages Member States and the Office to continue addressing the issues within the mandate of the working group in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner;

33. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and, in accordance with Commission resolution 54/8 of 25 March 2011,[691] urges the Board to further strengthen communication with Member States and to work with them in identifying opportunities for more effective control and monitoring of the trade in precursor chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

34. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[686] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[696] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[697]

35. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board, as may be appropriate, adequate support and technical assistance to Governments, inter alia, in Africa, Asia, Central America and the Caribbean, and Oceania, so as to enable them to implement and fully meet their obligations under conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly,

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[695] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 8A* (E/2011/28/Add.1), chap. I, sect. C.

[696] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[697] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

including for the strengthening of regulatory authorities and controls, provision of information and fulfilment of reporting requirements, and urges donors to contribute to the Office for those purposes;

36. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-fifth session,[689] the *World Drug Report 2012* of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the most recent report of the International Narcotics Control Board,[698] and calls upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the opium group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact[699] and other relevant regional and international initiatives, such as the "Heart of Asia" initiative;

37. *Urges* Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate, and emphasizes the need to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States parties with the drug control conventions;

38. *Emphasizes* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem, notes with appreciation their important contribution to the review process, and also notes that representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy;

39. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that civil society plays a participatory role, where appropriate, through consultation in the development and implementation of drug control programmes and policies, in particular with regard to aspects of demand reduction;

40. *Encourages* the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, and in this regard acknowledges the discussions conducted at the twenty-first meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Addis Ababa from 5 to 9 September 2011, and Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago from 3 to 7 October 2011;

41. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in combating illicit trafficking in drugs, addressing supply, demand and the diversion of precursor chemicals undertaken by regional organizations and transregional initiatives such as the members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Triangular Initiative, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Eurasian Group on Combating Money-Laundering and Financing of Terrorism and other relevant subregional and regional organizations and initiatives, including the counter-narcotics strategy of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization for the period 2011–2016, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, the European pacts to combat international drug trafficking and against synthetic drugs, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Senior Officials on Drug Matters workplan to combat illicit drug production, trafficking and use (2009–2015) with the aim of achieving a drug-free South-East Asia by 2015 and the South American Council on the World Drug Problem of the Union of South American Nations, as well as the recent intensification of partnering between the States members of the Caribbean Community, the Dominican Republic and the United States of America within the framework of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, which aims, inter alia, to substantially reduce illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs;

42. *Invites* Member States, in close consultation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, donors and other relevant international organizations, to continue assisting African States in addressing health problems and raising awareness of the dangers associated with the abuse of all drugs, in accordance with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/14 of 25 March 2011[691] and 55/9 of 16 March 2012,[689] and in this regard welcomes the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the African Union Commission, in which the two organizations agreed to work together to enhance the complementarities of their activities;

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[698] International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2011/1.

[699] See S/2003/641, annex.

43. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream drug control issues into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

44. *Decides* to convene, early in 2016, a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, following the high-level review of the progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, which will be conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, in March 2014;

45. *Also decides* that the special session of the General Assembly will review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

46. *Further decides* to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing resources;

47. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[700] and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 67/232

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 137)[701]

### 67/232. Committee against Torture

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[702]

*Welcoming* the work of the Committee against Torture, and encouraging sustained efforts by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods,

*Regretting* the persistent backlog of reports of States parties to the Convention and individual communications awaiting consideration, which prevents the Committee from considering reports and communications in a timely manner and without undue delay,

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/254 of 23 February 2012 and 66/295 of 17 September 2012 on the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, and recognizing in this regard that a long-term solution to the problem of the increasing backlog of reports of States parties to the Convention awaiting review by the Committee may be found in this context,

*Noting* the request of the Committee that the General Assembly authorize an extension of its meeting time by two weeks in 2013 and in 2014,[703]

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[700] A/67/157.

[701] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[702] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[703] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/67/44), chap. I, sect. P, paras. 23–29, and annexes IX and X.

*Noting also* that the Committee has only 10 members and normally meets for only two sessions of three weeks a year,

*Noting further* that the estimated budgetary requirements of the requested extension of meeting time for 2014 will be dealt with in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015, while bearing in mind the need to make the best possible use of resources,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made so far by the Committee against Torture to improve the efficiency of its working methods, including with a view to further harmonizing the working methods of the treaty bodies, and urges the Committee to continue its activities in this regard;

2. *Authorizes* the Committee, without prejudice to the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, to continue to meet for an additional week per session as a temporary measure, with effect from May 2013 until the end of November 2014, in order to address the backlog of reports of States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[702] and individual complaints awaiting consideration.

## RESOLUTION 67/233

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/457/Add.3 and Corr.1, para. 29)[704]

### 67/233. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[705] the International Covenants on Human Rights[706] and other relevant human rights instruments, and recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent of which is resolution 66/230 of 24 December 2011, those of the Commission on Human Rights, and those of the Human Rights Council, the most recent of which is resolution 19/21 of 23 March 2012,[707]

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar[708] and the facilitation by the Government of Myanmar of his visit to the country from 29 April to 1 May 2012 and the visit of his Special Adviser on Myanmar on 13 and 14 June 2012,

*Welcoming also* the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar[709] and the access granted to him during his visit in Myanmar from 30 July to 4 August 2012,

1. *Welcomes* the positive developments in Myanmar and the stated commitment of the Government of Myanmar to continue on the path of political reform, democratization and national reconciliation and the promotion and protection of human rights, recognizing the scale of the reform effort undertaken to date;

2. *Also welcomes* the continued engagement of the Government of Myanmar with political actors within Parliament, civil society and opposition parties, and urges the Government to continue electoral reform and to pursue an inclusive and sustained dialogue with the democratic opposition and political, ethnic and civil society groups and actors, leading to national reconciliation and lasting peace in Myanmar;

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[704] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[705] Resolution 217 A (III).

[706] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[707] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[708] A/67/333.

[709] A/67/383.

3. *Further welcomes* the efforts by the Government of Myanmar to ensure that the parliamentary by-elections held in Myanmar on 1 April 2012 were well organized and transparent, and is encouraged by the subsequent participation of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy, along with many other political parties, in the Parliament of Myanmar;

4. *Welcomes* the increasing space for political activity, assembly, speech and the press, including the abolition, on 20 August 2012, of direct press media censorship, and encourages the Government of Myanmar to fulfil its commitment to carry out comprehensive media reform, including to allow for free and independent media and to ensure the safety, security and freedom of human rights defenders to pursue their activities;

5. *Also welcomes* the continued release of prisoners of conscience during the past year, urges the Government of Myanmar to continue the process of releasing them without delay and without conditions and to ensure the full restoration of their rights and freedoms in line with the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, and, further, recommends that the Government conduct a comprehensive, thorough and inclusive investigation to identify remaining prisoners of conscience;

6. *Expresses concern* about remaining human rights violations, including arbitrary detention, forced displacement, land confiscations, rape and other forms of sexual violence, and torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, as well as violations of international humanitarian law, and urges the Government of Myanmar to step up its efforts to put an end to such violations;

7. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to take necessary measures to ensure accountability and end impunity, including by undertaking a full, transparent and independent investigation into all reports of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law;

8. *Recommends* that the Government of Myanmar consider ratifying further international instruments in the fields of human rights, labour law, refugee law and humanitarian law;

9. *Welcomes* the continuing review of legislation to assess its compatibility with international human rights law, the adoption of new laws, including on peaceful protests and labour rights, and the consultation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society and international organizations, on some of the draft laws, and encourages the Government of Myanmar to continue its review, including of new laws, establishing an order of priority to ensure that they are compatible with international standards, while ensuring broad consultation, and to support the implementation of reforms, including at the local level;

10. *Acknowledges with interest* the activities undertaken by the National Human Rights Commission, including its review of complaints and its conduct of investigative missions, and encourages it to further develop its protection work and engagement with civil society, while recalling the need to ensure the Commission's independent, free, credible and effective functioning in accordance with the Paris Principles;[710]

11. *Notes with interest* the steps taken to address the need for an independent, impartial and effective judiciary, including steps by the Supreme Court to engage with and seek technical assistance from the international community, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard, in line with the Government's own stated intention to strengthen the rule of law in Myanmar;

12. *Welcomes* the substantial progress made over the past year by the Government of Myanmar in signing initial peace agreements with 10 of 11 major ethnic armed groups, as well as the commitment by the Government to ensure an inclusive peace process, highlights the need for continued coordination and support from donors and partners for technical assistance, capacity-building and empowering civil society, and strongly encourages the establishment of formal political dialogue as part of an inclusive process towards ensuring long-term peace and national reconciliation;

13. *Expresses deep concern* about the continuing armed conflict in Kachin State and the associated human rights and international humanitarian law violations, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar and all parties to the armed conflict to take measures to protect the civilian population and for safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access;

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[710] Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (resolution 48/134, annex).

14. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to accelerate its efforts to address discrimination, human rights violations, violence, displacement and economic deprivation affecting various ethnic minorities, and, expressing particular concern about the situation of the Rohingya minority in Rakhine State, urges the Government to take action to bring about an improvement in their situation and to protect all their human rights, including their right to a nationality;

15. *Expresses its serious concern* at the latest outbreaks of violence between communities in Rakhine State, calls upon all parties to bring an immediate end to the violence, urging the Government of Myanmar, the police and the local gendarmerie to take all necessary actions to protect civilians without delay, notes in this regard the efforts by the Government to end the violence earlier in 2012 and its stated intention to address the issue in line with international standards, and urges that expeditious steps be taken in that direction, and calls upon the Government:

(*a*) To ensure the safety of populations, release all arbitrarily detained persons, including United Nations staff, and address reports of human rights violations by some authorities;

(*b*) To grant safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access across Rakhine State to all persons in need and facilitate the return of individuals to their original communities, and welcomes in this regard the various cooperation agreements between Myanmar authorities and the international community for the distribution of humanitarian aid in Rakhine State;

(*c*) To support restitution for property that was seriously damaged or destroyed and, welcoming the recent establishment of an investigative commission for the recent situation in Rakhine State, to ensure a full, transparent and independent investigation of those reports, with the participation of all the affected communities, including the Rohingya, and bring to justice those responsible;

(*d*) To resolve the issue by adopting short- and long-term measures, taking into account a policy of integration, reconciliation and peaceful coexistence between all communities in Rakhine State;

16. *Welcomes* the action plan on child soldiers signed by the Government of Myanmar with the United Nations on 27 June 2012 to prevent the recruitment and use of children by the armed forces of Myanmar and providing a time-bound plan for the release and reintegration of children within their ranks, and calls upon the Government to take immediate steps towards ending the recruitment and use of child soldiers by all parties in full collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and to grant unhindered access to all areas where children are recruited;

17. *Also welcomes* the agreement between the Government of Myanmar and the International Labour Organization on a joint strategy and the stated intent of the Government to eliminate all forms of forced labour by 2015;

18. *Further welcomes* the progress made in the development of some activities by the International Committee of the Red Cross, and urges the Government of Myanmar to allow it to carry out other activities in accordance with its mandate, in particular by granting access to detained persons and to areas of internal armed conflict;

19. *Welcomes* the dialogue between the Government of Myanmar and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and urges the Government to intensify its cooperation with the Office with a view to continuing and consolidating human rights reform in Myanmar;

20. *Encourages* the international community to continue to support the Government of Myanmar in the fulfilment of its international human rights obligations and commitments, the implementation of its democratic transitional process and its economic and social development;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions on the situation of human rights, the transition to democracy and the national reconciliation process with the Government and the people of Myanmar, involving all relevant stakeholders, including democracy and human rights groups, and to offer technical assistance to the Government in this regard;

(*b*) To give all assistance necessary to enable the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Myanmar and the Special Rapporteur to discharge their mandates fully, effectively and in a coordinated manner;

(*c*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, as well as to the Human Rights Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter on the basis of the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur.

# VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee[*]

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[*] Unless otherwise stated, the draft resolutions recommended in the reports were submitted by the Chair or another officer of the Bureau of the Committee.

## RESOLUTION 67/2

Adopted at the 23rd plenary meeting, on 11 October 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/502, para. 6)

### 67/2. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* chapter V of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its seventy-second session,[1]

*Reaffirming* the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to bring to the attention of Member States the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C, including through an early announcement in the *Journal of the United Nations* and through direct communication;

4. *Urges* all Member States requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to submit as much information as possible in support of their requests and to consider submitting such information in advance of the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C so as to enable the collation of any additional detailed information that may be necessary;

5. *Agrees* that the failure of the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

6. *Decides* that the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia shall be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until the end of its sixty-seventh session.

## RESOLUTION 67/235

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/666, para. 7)

### 67/235. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 52/212 B of 31 March 1998 and its decision 57/573 of 20 December 2002,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 65/243 A and B of 24 December 2010 and 30 June 2011 and 66/232 A and B of 24 December 2011 and 21 June 2012,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 55/231 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/290 B of 18 June 2003, 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/257 of 8 May 2006, 61/245 of 22 December 2006, 63/276 of 7 April 2009, 64/259 of 29 March 2010 and 66/257 of 9 April 2012,

*Having considered*, for the period ended 31 December 2011, the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports and audit opinions of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations,[2] the International

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/67/11).

[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5*, vol. I and corrigenda (A/67/5 (Vol. I) and Corr.1 and 2).

Trade Centre,[3] the United Nations University,[4] the United Nations Development Programme,[5] the United Nations Children's Fund,[6] the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[7] the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[8] the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[9] the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme,[10] the United Nations Population Fund,[11] the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,[12] the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[13] the United Nations Office for Project Services,[14] the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[15] the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[16] and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),[17] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the concise summary of the principal findings and conclusions contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors,[18] the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the United Nations for the biennium ended 31 December 2011[19] and on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the United Nations funds and programmes for the financial period ended 31 December 2011[20] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[21]

1. *Accepts* the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports and audit opinions of the Board of Auditors for the above-mentioned organizations;[2–17]

2. *Approves* the recommendations and conclusions contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors;

3. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[21] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Board of Auditors shall be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of audits;

5. *Decides* to consider further the reports of the Board of Auditors on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia under the respective agenda items relating to the Tribunals,

6. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the continued high quality of its reports, in particular with respect to its comments on the management of resources and improving the presentation of financial statements;

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[3] Ibid., vol. III (A/67/5 (Vol. III)).

[4] Ibid., vol. IV (A/67/5 (Vol. IV)).

[5] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5A* (A/67/5/Add.1).

[6] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5B* (A/67/5/Add.2).

[7] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5C* (A/67/5/Add.3).

[8] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5D* (A/67/5/Add.4).

[9] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* (A/67/5/Add.5).

[10] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5F* and corrigendum (A/67/5/Add.6 and Corr.1).

[11] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* (A/67/5/Add.7).

[12] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5H* and corrigendum (A/67/5/Add.8 and Corr.1).

[13] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* and corrigendum (A/67/5/Add.9 and Corr.1).

[14] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5J* (A/67/5/Add.10).

[15] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5K* (A/67/5/Add.11).

[16] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5L* (A/67/5/Add.12).

[17] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5M* and corrigendum (A/67/5/Add.13 and Corr.1).

[18] A/67/173.

[19] A/67/319, sects. I and II.

[20] A/67/319/Add.1.

[21] A/67/381.

7. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;[19,20]

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in a prompt and timely manner, to continue to hold programme managers accountable for the non-implementation of recommendations and to effectively address the root causes of the problems highlighted by the Board;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors a full explanation for the delays in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board, in particular those recommendations not yet fully implemented that are two or more years old;

10. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to indicate in future reports an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as well as the priorities for their implementation and the office holders to be held accountable;

11. *Notes with deep concern* the recurrence of systemic problems previously identified by the Board of Auditors related to accounting for expendable and non-expendable property, cash fund management, procurement and contract management, and in this regard stresses the need for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors as a matter of priority;

12. *Recalls* paragraphs 45 and 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, requests the United Nations entities concerned to take all adequate measures to address the issues raised therein, and requests the Advisory Committee to request the Board to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

13. *Notes with concern* that the Board of Auditors identified in the financial statements of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for the biennium ended 31 December 2011 one "other matter" relating to the impact of low levels of funding and cash on the internal control of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the expeditious implementation of the recommendations of the Board;

14. *Also notes with concern* that the Board of Auditors identified in the financial statements of UN-Women for the period ended 31 December 2011 one "emphasis of matter", namely that the internal control system of UN-Women for oversight of operations, projects and programmes had not fully matured during the year to ensure consistent application throughout its operation, and one "other matter", on the transfer of assets and liabilities to UN-Women at different dates, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the expeditious implementation of the recommendations of the Board;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the reports and recommendations of the Board of Auditors on major business transformation projects of the United Nations;

16. *Recalls* paragraphs 21 to 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and urges the Secretary-General to implement, as a matter of priority, all the related recommendations of both the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee;

17. *Also recalls* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on major business transformation projects, as mentioned in paragraphs 21 to 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and encourages the Secretary-General to take into account these recommendations when preparing future initiatives of comparable size and complexity, including initiatives relating to institutional restructuring;

18. *Notes with concern* that the successful implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards at the United Nations, the peacekeeping operations, the United Nations University and UN-Women remain at high risk, and requests the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to invite all the heads of the United Nations entities to take the appropriate measures to mitigate these risks and to report thereon at its sixty-eighth session;

19. *Stresses* that results-based management is a central management tool for improving performance and ensuring the achievement of the expected results based on mandates provided by Member States;

20. *Also stresses* that the effective implementation of results-based management requires the Organization to create a sustained focus on results and therefore sustained and focused engagement by senior management, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to assign a senior manager with responsibility for implementing results-based management;

21. *Regrets* the significant deficiencies found by the Board of Auditors in the implementation of results-based budgeting in the United Nations, and in this regard urges the Secretary-General to address those deficiencies as a matter of priority;

22. *Reaffirms* its resolution 62/224 of 22 December 2007.

## RESOLUTION 67/236

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/668, para. 6)

### 67/236. Programme planning

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/257 of 8 May 2006, 61/235 of 22 December 2006, 62/224 of 22 December 2007, 63/247 of 24 December 2008, 64/229 of 22 December 2009, 65/244 of 24 December 2010 and 66/8 of 11 November 2011,

*Recalling also* the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

*Recalling further* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[22] by which the relevant programmes and subprogrammes of the proposed strategic framework shall be reviewed by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies, if possible during the regular cycle of their meetings,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its fifty-second session,[23] the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014–2015: part one: plan outline[24] and part two: biennial programme plan[25] and the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2010–2011,[26]

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[22]

### Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014–2015

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014–2015, contained in chapter II, section B, of its report on the work of its fifty-second session,[23] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

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[22] ST/SGB/2000/8.

[23] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/67/16).

[24] A/67/6 (Part one).

[25] A/67/6 (Progs. 1–28).

[26] A/67/77 and Corr.1.

4. *Decides* not to take a decision on the content of part one: plan outline of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014–2015;[24]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, when preparing future plan outlines, that the proposed strategic frameworks take fully into account the guidelines provided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 59/275, 61/235, 62/224, 63/247 and subsequent relevant resolutions;

6. *Decides* that the priorities of the United Nations for the period 2014–2015 shall be the following:

(*a*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*b*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

7. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

8. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 on the basis of the above priorities and the strategic framework as adopted in the present resolution;

### Programme performance report

10. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2010–2011;[26]

11. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2010–2011, contained in paragraphs 40 to 42 and 44 of its report;

12. *Emphasizes* the need for the Secretary-General to strictly adhere to the concepts, terms and mandates approved in the strategic frameworks, while preparing the related programme performance reports;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to issue a corrigendum to his report on programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2010–2011[26] to replace the specific names of Arab countries enumerated in paragraph 48, in the textbox after paragraph 693 and in paragraph 721 by the words "some Arab countries";

14. *Stresses* that, while future reports on programme performance will be more aligned with objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, information on the outputs shall continue to be provided in the reports;

### Evaluation and coordination questions

15. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on evaluation, contained in chapter II, section C, of its report, on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2011/12, contained in chapter III, section A, and on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, contained in chapter III, section B, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the timely implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations;

16. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Economic and Social Council to utilize the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination when considering related reports of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

17. *Stresses* the importance of fostering dialogue and interaction between the secretariat of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and Member States, as well as of full respect for the intergovernmental mandates of the member organizations of the Board, when implementing initiatives and activities.

## RESOLUTION 67/237

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/664, para. 6)

### 67/237. Pattern of conferences

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002, 57/283 A of 20 December 2002, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004, 60/236 A of 23 December 2005, 60/236 B of 8 May 2006, 61/236 of 22 December 2006, 62/225 of 22 December 2007, 63/248 of 24 December 2008, 63/284 of 30 June 2009, 64/230 of 22 December 2009, 65/245 of 24 December 2010 and 66/233 of 24 December 2011,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2012[27] and the relevant report of the Secretary-General,[28]

*Having also considered* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[29]

*Reaffirming* the provisions relating to conference services in its resolutions on multilingualism, in particular resolution 65/311 of 19 July 2011,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Recalls* its resolution 14 (I) of 13 February 1946 and the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly;

#### I

#### Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2012;[27]

2. *Approves* the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2013, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[30] taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

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[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/67/32).

[28] A/67/127 and Corr.1.

[29] A/67/523.

[30] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/67/32), annex II.

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2013 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A, 54/248, 55/222, 56/242, 57/283 B, 58/250, 59/265, 60/236 A, 61/236, 62/225, 63/248, 64/230, 65/245 and 66/233 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

6. *Invites* Member States to include in new legislative mandates adequate information on the modalities for the organization of conferences or meetings;

7. *Recalls* rule 153 of its rules of procedure, and requests the Secretary-General to include the modalities of conferences in resolutions involving expenditure, taking into account the trends of similar meetings, with a view to mobilizing conference services and documentation in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible;

8. *Also recalls* section II.A, paragraph 16, of its resolution 66/233, and in this respect concurs with the observations in paragraph 13 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences regarding the biennial calendar of meetings of the Economic and Social Council;[28]

## II

### A. Utilization of conference-servicing resources

1. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to meetings of Member States;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and Member States to adhere to the guidelines and procedures contained in the administrative instruction for the authorization of the use of United Nations premises for meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits;[31]

3. *Emphasizes* that such meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

4. *Notes* that the overall utilization factor at the four main duty stations in 2011 was 85 per cent, as in 2010, and 86 per cent in 2009, which is above the established benchmark of 80 per cent;

5. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and requests the Committee on Conferences to intensify consultations with the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources;

6. *Recognizes* that late starts and unplanned early endings seriously affect the utilization factor of the bodies owing to the amount of time lost, and invites the secretariats and bureaux of bodies to pay adequate attention to avoiding late starts and unplanned early endings;

7. *Notes* that the percentage of meetings held by the bodies entitled to meet "as required" that were provided with interpretation services in New York in 2011 was 96 per cent, as compared with 94 per cent in 2010, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to impress upon such bodies the need to strive to optimize the utilization of the conference services provided and to report on the provision of conference services to those bodies through the Committee on Conferences;

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[31] ST/AI/416.

8. *Reiterates its request* to intergovernmental bodies to review their meeting entitlements and to plan and adjust their programmes of work on the basis of their actual utilization of conference-servicing resources in order to improve their efficient use of conference services;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met, and requests the Secretariat to inform the requesters as early as possible about the availability of conference services, including interpretation, as well as about any changes that might occur before the holding of meetings;

10. *Notes* that the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services at the four main duty stations was 91 per cent in 2011, as compared with 84 per cent in 2010, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to employ innovative means to address the difficulties experienced by Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

11. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of all users of conference services to inform the Secretariat as early as possible of any cancellation of service requests so as to allow for such services to be smoothly redeployed to other meetings;

13. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with several resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 66/233, section II.A, paragraph 12, in conformity with the headquarters rule, all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations bodies were held in Nairobi in 2011, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session through the Committee on Conferences;

14. *Notes with concern* the recurring underutilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, and recognizes the ongoing promotional efforts and initiatives of the Commission;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore additional means to increase the utilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, including with its partners such as the African Union, and to report thereon, including on the impact of the initiatives of the Commission, to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the heads of entities of the United Nations system to use as a matter of priority, when applicable, the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa to ensure greater utilization of the conference facilities;

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to formulate a more competitive pricing structure and an appropriate marketing strategy for the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa;

18. *Recognizes* the proactive efforts of the Secretary-General to identify ways to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in conference services;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to propose, at its sixty-eighth session, a comprehensive review of conference servicing, highlighting any duplication or redundancy, with a view to identifying innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-saving measures, without compromising the quality of the services;

20. *Reiterates its request* to the Committee on Conferences that it consult those bodies that have consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark of their allocated resources for the past three years, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and urges the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources to work more closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat and to consider changes to their programmes of work, as appropriate, including adjustments based on previous patterns of recurring agenda items, with a view to making improvements in their utilization factors;

21. *Requests* the Chair of the Committee on Conferences to address a letter to the presiding officers of intergovernmental bodies based at duty stations other than New York if their utilization factor falls below the benchmark of 80 per cent;

22. *Urges* those intergovernmental bodies whose average utilization factor has for the past 10 years been below the benchmark of 80 per cent to take that factor into account when planning their future sessions in order to achieve that benchmark;

### B. Impact of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach), on meetings held at Headquarters during its implementation

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the capital master plan, including the reassignment of conference-servicing staff to swing spaces, will not compromise the quality of conference services provided to Member States in the six official languages and the equal treatment of the language services, which should be provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to receiving the maximum quality of services;

2. *Requests* all meeting requesters and organizers to liaise closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management on all matters related to the scheduling of meetings to allow maximum predictability in coordinating activities at Headquarters during the construction period;

3. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to keep the matter under constant review, and requests the Secretary-General to report regularly to the Committee on matters pertaining to the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations during the construction period;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide adequate information technology support for conference services, within the existing resources of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, in order to ensure their seamless operation throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

5. *Notes* that, for the duration of the implementation of the capital master plan, a part of the conference-servicing staff and information technology resources of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has been temporarily relocated to swing spaces, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide adequate support, within the existing resources of the Department, to ensure continued maintenance of the information technology facilities of the Department, implementation of the global information technology initiative and delivery of high-quality conference services;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States on initiatives that affect the utilization of conference services and conference facilities;

## III

## Integrated global management

1. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretary-General in the context of the integrated global management initiative to establish and implement in the four main duty stations common performance indicators and single information technology systems (such as gData, gMeets, gDoc and gText), and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

2. *Recalls* section III, paragraph 15, of its resolution 66/233, requests the Secretary-General to complete the internal reviews concerning accountability mechanisms and the clear delineation of responsibility between the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Directors General of the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna for conference management policies, operations and resource utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

3. *Notes* the initiatives undertaken in the context of integrated global management aimed at streamlining procedures, achieving economies of scale and improving the quality of conference services, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring equal treatment of conference-servicing staff, as well as the principle of equal grade for equal work at the four main duty stations;

4. *Also notes* that the effects of workload-sharing in the context of global document management remain minimal, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways to promote workload-sharing among the four main duty stations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

5. *Emphasizes* that the major goals of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, in accordance with established regulations, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

6. *Notes* that the pool of language professionals at duty stations is uneven in terms of language combinations, and requests the Secretary-General to develop recruitment, subcontracting and outreach policies that take full account of these imbalances and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving the maximum quality of services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

8. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

9. *Also reiterates* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and conference services;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that measures taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore best practices and techniques in client satisfaction evaluations and to report regularly to the General Assembly on the results achieved;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, taking into consideration also comments and complaints raised by Member States either in writing or during meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his exploration of innovative ways to systematically capture and analyse feedback from Member States and Chairs and Secretaries of committees on the quality of conference services and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, including through the language-specific informational meetings held once a year, ahead of the substantive session of the Committee on Conferences, or any necessary meeting scheduled upon the request of Member States, not to exceed two meetings per year, and to ensure that such measures provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and that they are in full compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress made in integrated global management;

15. *Notes with concern* that the Secretary-General did not include in his report on the pattern of conferences[28] information about the financial savings achieved through the implementation of the integrated global management projects, as requested in section III, paragraph 4, of its resolution 63/248, in section III, paragraph 12, of its resolution 64/230, in section III, paragraph 14, of its resolution 65/245 and in section III, paragraph 14, of its resolution 66/233, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General redouble his efforts to include this information in his next report on the pattern of conferences;

16. *Notes* the Flextime pilot project initiated by the United Nations Office at Vienna, stresses that the rules and regulations of the United Nations governing human resources issues should be applied uniformly during the implementation of the pilot project, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the evaluation of the pilot project, including a recommendation on whether the project should be continued at the United Nations Office at Vienna and further implemented at other duty stations;

17. *Welcomes* the proximity rule as an efficient approach, where feasible, to servicing meetings away from duty stations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to rigorously apply the proximity rule to applicable meetings without jeopardizing the quality of services and to report thereon to the Committee on Conferences at its substantive session in 2013;

## IV

## Matters related to documentation and publications

1. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* its decision in section IV of its resolution 64/230 that all reports adopted by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council shall be issued as documents in all official languages of the United Nations in a timely manner before their consideration by the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 36/117 A of 10 December 1981, 51/211 A to E, 52/214, 53/208 A to E and 59/265, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the support necessary to that effect and to report to the General Assembly thereon at its sixty-eighth session;

3. *Reiterates with concern its request* that the Secretary-General ensure that the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all six official languages are strictly respected as regards both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website, in keeping with section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222;

4. *Stresses* that matters related to conference management, including documentation, fall within the purview of the Fifth Committee;

5. *Reiterates* the importance of the timely issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

6. *Acknowledges* that a multipronged approach is required to find a solution to the perennial difficulties of the late issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

7. *Recognizes* the work done by the interdepartmental task force on documentation chaired by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in positively addressing the problem of issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

8. *Encourages* the Chairs of the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to continue to promote cooperation between the two bodies in the sphere of documentation;

9. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the task force to shepherd the submission of documents by the author departments of the Secretariat;

10. *Notes* that accurate, timely and consistent information provided by the Secretariat to the Fifth Committee during its informal consultations facilitates the decision-making process in the Committee;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* that all documents submitted on time and within the word limit were processed by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management within four weeks, and encourages the Secretary-General to sustain that level of performance;

12. *Reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265 that the issuance of documents in all six official languages on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

13. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

(*a*) A summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

14. *Also reiterates its request* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

15. *Notes with concern* that only 65 per cent of the author departments reached the compliance rate of 90 per cent in the timely submission of their reports to the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, and requests the Secretary-General to enforce the slotting system more rigorously through a dedicated focus, such as the interdepartmental task force on documentation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

16. *Urges* author departments to fully adhere to deadlines in meeting the goal of 90 per cent submission compliance, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that documents submitted late do not adversely affect the issuance of documents submitted on time and in compliance with set guidelines;

17. *Reiterates its request* in section IV, paragraph 18, of its resolution 66/233 that the Secretary-General provide information on the waiver process for documents that are submitted over the word limit;

18. *Welcomes* the interactions between the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and the author departments on waiver management, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure continuous efforts in this regard and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

19. *Emphasizes* the role of Member States and their intergovernmental bodies in determining the policies of conference management;

20. *Stresses* that proposals to change such policies are to be approved by Member States in their relevant intergovernmental bodies;

21. *Recalls* paragraphs 23 and 24 of the annex to its resolution 55/285 of 7 September 2001 and section IV, paragraph 23, of its resolution 66/233, and requests the Secretary-General to elaborate the scope of the paper-smart concept so that it becomes a more comprehensive concept based on the use of modern technology in order to better serve Member States, bearing in mind the principle of language parity among the six official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, including detailed information on:

(*a*) Technological benchmarks, including but not limited to data security and services provided to Member States;

(*b*) Implications for financial and human resources and budgetary and procurement procedures;

(*c*) Implementation time frames at the four main duty stations;

(*d*) Integration of the related information and communications technology projects with Umoja;

(*e*) Business continuity plans;

(*f*) Possible training needs;

(*g*) Availability of the paper-smart portal;

(*h*) Accessibility for persons with disabilities;

22. *Notes* that the Official Document System is the official digital repository of the United Nations;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents onto the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis so that these archives will also be available to Member States through that medium;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on a detailed time frame for the digitization of all important older United Nations documents, including parliamentary documents, and on options for expediting this process within existing resources;

25. *Notes* the pilot project undertaken by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at the United Nations Office at Vienna to make a transition to digital recordings of meetings in the six official languages of the Organization as a cost-saving measure;

26. *Emphasizes* that the further expansion of this measure would require consideration, including of its legal, financial and human resources implications, by the General Assembly and full compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon and on the evaluation of the pilot project mentioned above to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

27. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of its resolution 49/221 B of 23 December 1994, and stresses that the timely issuance of verbatim records constitutes an important part of the services provided to Member States;

## V

## Matters related to translation and interpretation

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all six official languages;

2. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General ensure that the terminology used in the translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

3. *Reaffirms* section V, paragraph 4, of its resolution 66/233, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, including through the use of international or local contracts, as appropriate, ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of each of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

4. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General consider further measures aimed at decreasing the vacancy rates at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff sufficiently in advance in order to fill current and future vacancies in the language services in a timely manner and to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session of efforts in this regard;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the quality of translation of documents into the six official languages, giving particular significance to the accuracy of translation;

7. *Reiterates* paragraph 8 of the annex to resolution 2 (I) of 1 February 1946 on the rules of procedure concerning languages, whereby all resolutions and other important documents shall be made available in the official languages and, upon the request of any representative, any other document shall be made available in any or all of the official languages;

8. *Stresses* the need to ensure the highest possible quality of contractual translation, and requests the Secretary-General to report on measures to be taken in this regard;

9. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General provide, at all duty stations, adequate staff at the appropriate level, with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translation, with due consideration of the principle of equal grade for equal work;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the experience, lessons learned and best practices of the main duty stations in performing quality control of contractual translations, including on requirements relating to the number and appropriate level of staff needed to carry out this function;

11. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to establish globally standardized performance indicators and costing models aimed at a more cost-effective strategy for the in-house processing of documents, and requests the Secretary-General to submit such information to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolutions, to address, among other things, the issue of the replacement of retiring staff in the language services, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and intensify those efforts, including the strengthening of cooperation with institutions that train language specialists, in order to meet the needs in the six official languages of the United Nations;

13. *Notes* the need for energetic measures to avoid a disruptive shortage of applicants and a high turnover rate in the language career fields, and requests the Secretary-General to use the appropriate means to improve the internship programme, including through partnerships with organizations that promote the official languages of the United Nations;

14. *Also notes*, in this regard, that recent efforts have led to the signing of memorandums of understanding and collaboration agreements with two universities in Africa and that a memorandum of understanding has been signed with a Latin American institution;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make further concerted efforts to promote outreach programmes, such as traineeships and internships, and to introduce innovative methods to increase awareness of the programmes, including through partnerships with Member States, relevant international organizations and language institutions in all regions, in particular to close the wide gap in Africa and Latin America, and to report to the General Assembly thereon at its sixty-eighth session;

16. *Requests* the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, in cooperation with the Office of Human Resources Management, to continue to increase its efforts to raise awareness among all Member States about opportunities for employment and internships in the language services at the four main duty stations;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the positive experience with traineeships at Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Vienna in training young professionals in and attracting them to the translation and interpretation services of the United Nations, while enhancing the pool of qualified language professionals in language combinations that are critical for succession-planning purposes, and requests the Secretary-General to develop the initiative further, to extend it to all duty stations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

18. *Notes* that the consolidated lists of individuals and entities subject to sanctions, according to the sanctions committees of the Security Council, have not yet been translated into all six official languages, reiterates its recommendation that the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions of the Security Council look further into the practices related to the issuance of these consolidated lists, including their translation, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon at its sixty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/238

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/502/Add.1, para. 6)

### 67/238. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions and decisions on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations, including its resolutions 55/5 B and C of 23 December 2000, 57/4 B of 20 December 2002, 58/1 B of 23 December 2003, 61/237 of 22 December 2006 and 64/248 of 24 December 2009,

*Reaffirming* Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations and rule 160 of its rules of procedure,

*Recalling* paragraphs 5 and 6 of its resolution 58/1 B, *Having considered* the reports of the Committee on Contributions on its seventy-first[32] and seventy-second[33] sessions and the report of the Secretary-General on multi-year payment plans,[34]

1. *Reaffirms* that the determination of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations shall remain the prerogative of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* the fundamental principle that the expenses of the Organization shall be apportioned broadly according to capacity to pay;

3. *Further reaffirms* the obligation of all Member States to bear the expenses of the United Nations, as apportioned by the General Assembly, in conformity with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Committee on Contributions as a technical body is required to prepare the scale of assessments strictly on the basis of reliable, verifiable and comparable data;

5. *Decides* that the scale of assessments for the period from 2013 to 2015 shall be based on the following elements and criteria:

(*a*) Estimates of gross national income;

(*b*) Average statistical base periods of three and six years;

(*c*) Conversion rates based on market exchange rates, except where that would cause excessive fluctuations and distortions in the income of some Member States, when price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates should be employed, taking due account of its resolution 46/221 B of 20 December 1991;

(*d*) The debt-burden approach employed in the scale of assessments for the period from 2010 to 2012;

(*e*) A low per capita income adjustment of 80 per cent, with a threshold per capita income limit of the average per capita gross national income of all Member States for the statistical base periods;

(*f*) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(*g*) A maximum assessment rate for the least developed countries of 0.01 per cent;

(*h*) A maximum assessment rate of 22 per cent;

6. *Notes* that the application of the current methodology, as set out above, reflects changes in the relative economic situations of the States Members of the United Nations;

7. *Also notes* that changes in Member States' shares in world gross national income result in changes in relative capacity to pay, which should be more accurately reflected in the scale of assessments;

8. *Recognizes* that the current methodology can be enhanced, bearing in mind the principle of capacity to pay;

9. *Also recognizes* the need to study the methodology in depth and in an effective and expeditious manner, taking into account the views expressed by Member States;

10. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions, in accordance with its mandate and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to review and make recommendations on the elements of the methodology of the scale of assessments in order to reflect the capacity of Member States to pay, and to report thereon to the Assembly by the main part of its seventieth session;

11. *Resolves* that the scale of assessments for the contributions of Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2013, 2014 and 2015 shall be as follows:

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[32] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/66/11).

[33] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/67/11).

[34] A/67/75.

| Member State | Percentage |
|---|---|
| Afghanistan | 0.005 |
| Albania | 0.010 |
| Algeria | 0.137 |
| Andorra | 0.008 |
| Angola | 0.010 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 0.002 |
| Argentina | 0.432 |
| Armenia | 0.007 |
| Australia | 2.074 |
| Austria | 0.798 |
| Azerbaijan | 0.040 |
| Bahamas | 0.017 |
| Bahrain | 0.039 |
| Bangladesh | 0.010 |
| Barbados | 0.008 |
| Belarus | 0.056 |
| Belgium | 0.998 |
| Belize | 0.001 |
| Benin | 0.003 |
| Bhutan | 0.001 |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 0.009 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 0.017 |
| Botswana | 0.017 |
| Brazil | 2.934 |
| Brunei Darussalam | 0.026 |
| Bulgaria | 0.047 |
| Burkina Faso | 0.003 |
| Burundi | 0.001 |
| Cambodia | 0.004 |
| Cameroon | 0.012 |
| Canada | 2.984 |
| Cape Verde | 0.001 |
| Central African Republic | 0.001 |
| Chad | 0.002 |
| Chile | 0.334 |
| China | 5.148 |
| Colombia | 0.259 |
| Comoros | 0.001 |
| Congo | 0.005 |
| Costa Rica | 0.038 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 0.011 |
| Croatia | 0.126 |
| Cuba | 0.069 |
| Cyprus | 0.047 |
| Czech Republic | 0.386 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 0.006 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 0.003 |
| Denmark | 0.675 |
| Djibouti | 0.001 |
| Dominica | 0.001 |
| Dominican Republic | 0.045 |
| Ecuador | 0.044 |
| Egypt | 0.134 |
| El Salvador | 0.016 |
| Equatorial Guinea | 0.010 |
| Eritrea | 0.001 |
| Estonia | 0.040 |
| Ethiopia | 0.010 |
| Fiji | 0.003 |
| Finland | 0.519 |
| France | 5.593 |
| Gabon | 0.020 |
| Gambia | 0.001 |
| Georgia | 0.007 |
| Germany | 7.141 |
| Ghana | 0.014 |
| Greece | 0.638 |
| Grenada | 0.001 |
| Guatemala | 0.027 |
| Guinea | 0.001 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 0.001 |
| Guyana | 0.001 |
| Haiti | 0.003 |
| Honduras | 0.008 |
| Hungary | 0.266 |
| Iceland | 0.027 |
| India | 0.666 |
| Indonesia | 0.346 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 0.356 |
| Iraq | 0.068 |
| Ireland | 0.418 |
| Israel | 0.396 |
| Italy | 4.448 |
| Jamaica | 0.011 |
| Japan | 10.833 |
| Jordan | 0.022 |
| Kazakhstan | 0.121 |
| Kenya | 0.013 |
| Kiribati | 0.001 |
| Kuwait | 0.273 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 0.002 |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 0.002 |
| Latvia | 0.047 |
| Lebanon | 0.042 |
| Lesotho | 0.001 |
| Liberia | 0.001 |
| Libya | 0.142 |
| Liechtenstein | 0.009 |

| *Member State* | *Percentage* |
|---|---|
| Lithuania | 0.073 |
| Luxembourg | 0.081 |
| Madagascar | 0.003 |
| Malawi | 0.002 |
| Malaysia | 0.281 |
| Maldives | 0.001 |
| Mali | 0.004 |
| Malta | 0.016 |
| Marshall Islands | 0.001 |
| Mauritania | 0.002 |
| Mauritius | 0.013 |
| Mexico | 1.842 |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | 0.001 |
| Monaco | 0.012 |
| Mongolia | 0.003 |
| Montenegro | 0.005 |
| Morocco | 0.062 |
| Mozambique | 0.003 |
| Myanmar | 0.010 |
| Namibia | 0.010 |
| Nauru | 0.001 |
| Nepal | 0.006 |
| Netherlands | 1.654 |
| New Zealand | 0.253 |
| Nicaragua | 0.003 |
| Niger | 0.002 |
| Nigeria | 0.090 |
| Norway | 0.851 |
| Oman | 0.102 |
| Pakistan | 0.085 |
| Palau | 0.001 |
| Panama | 0.026 |
| Papua New Guinea | 0.004 |
| Paraguay | 0.010 |
| Peru | 0.117 |
| Philippines | 0.154 |
| Poland | 0.921 |
| Portugal | 0.474 |
| Qatar | 0.209 |
| Republic of Korea | 1.994 |
| Republic of Moldova | 0.003 |
| Romania | 0.226 |
| Russian Federation | 2.438 |
| Rwanda | 0.002 |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | 0.001 |
| Saint Lucia | 0.001 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 0.001 |
| Samoa | 0.001 |
| San Marino | 0.003 |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 0.001 |
| Saudi Arabia | 0.864 |
| Senegal | 0.006 |
| Serbia | 0.040 |
| Seychelles | 0.001 |
| Sierra Leone | 0.001 |
| Singapore | 0.384 |
| Slovakia | 0.171 |
| Slovenia | 0.100 |
| Solomon Islands | 0.001 |
| Somalia | 0.001 |
| South Africa | 0.372 |
| South Sudan | 0.004 |
| Spain | 2.973 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.025 |
| Sudan | 0.010 |
| Suriname | 0.004 |
| Swaziland | 0.003 |
| Sweden | 0.960 |
| Switzerland | 1.047 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 0.036 |
| Tajikistan | 0.003 |
| Thailand | 0.239 |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 0.008 |
| Timor-Leste | 0.002 |
| Togo | 0.001 |
| Tonga | 0.001 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 0.044 |
| Tunisia | 0.036 |
| Turkey | 1.328 |
| Turkmenistan | 0.019 |
| Tuvalu | 0.001 |
| Uganda | 0.006 |
| Ukraine | 0.099 |
| United Arab Emirates | 0.595 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 5.179 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 0.009 |
| United States of America | 22.000 |
| Uruguay | 0.052 |
| Uzbekistan | 0.015 |
| Vanuatu | 0.001 |
| Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | 0.627 |
| Viet Nam | 0.042 |
| Yemen | 0.010 |
| Zambia | 0.006 |
| Zimbabwe | 0.002 |
| **Total** | **100.000** |

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on multi-year payment plans[34] and the related conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Contributions;[33]

13. *Reaffirms* paragraph 1 of its resolution 57/4 B;

14. *Encourages* Member States in arrears with their assessed contributions to the United Nations to consider submitting multi-year payment plans;

15. *Notes* that the Committee on Contributions conducted a review of its working methods during its seventy-second session, and requests it to keep them under review;

16. *Resolves* that:

(*a*) Notwithstanding the terms of financial regulation 3.9 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[35] the Secretary-General shall be empowered to accept, at his discretion and after consultation with the Chair of the Committee on Contributions, a portion of the contributions of Member States for the calendar years 2013, 2014 and 2015 in currencies other than the United States dollar;

(*b*) In accordance with financial regulation 3.8, the Holy See, which is not a member of the United Nations but which participates in certain of its activities, shall be called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the Organization for 2013, 2014 and 2015 on the basis of a notional assessment rate of 0.001 per cent, which represents the basis for the calculation of the flat annual fees to be charged to the Holy See in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/197 B of 21 December 1989;

17. *Decides* that the rate of assessment for South Sudan, admitted to membership in the United Nations on 14 July 2011, shall be 0.003 per cent for 2011 and 2012;

18. *Also decides* that South Sudan shall contribute at the rate of one twelfth of this percentage for each full month of membership in 2011;

19. *Further decides* that the contributions of South Sudan for 2011 and 2012 shall be applied to the same basis of assessment as for other Member States, except that, in the case of appropriations or apportionments approved by the General Assembly for the financing of peacekeeping operations, the contributions of South Sudan, as determined by the level of contributions for peacekeeping operations to which it is assigned in 2011 and 2012, pursuant to the provisions of Assembly resolution 55/235 of 23 December 2000, shall be calculated in proportion to the calendar year;

20. *Decides* that the assessments of South Sudan for 2011 and 2012 shall be taken into account as miscellaneous income under financial regulation 3.13;

21. *Also decides* that, in accordance with financial regulation 3.7, the advance of South Sudan to the Working Capital Fund shall be calculated by the application of its rate of assessment for 2011 to the authorized level of the Fund and should be added to the Fund, pending its incorporation in a 100 per cent scale.

## RESOLUTION 67/239

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/665, para. 6)

### 67/239. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000, 58/256 of 23 December 2003, 61/243 of 22 December 2006 and 64/249 of 24 December 2009,

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[35] ST/SGB/2003/7 and Amend.1.

*Reaffirming* the principles set out in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235,

*Recalling its request* to the Secretary-General, in paragraph 15 of resolution 55/235, to update the composition of the levels of contribution of Member States for peacekeeping operations described in the resolution on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established in the resolution, and to report thereon to the General Assembly,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 55/235 and 55/236,[36]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[36] and of the updated composition of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations for the period from 2013 to 2015 contained therein;[37]

2. *Reaffirms* the following general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations:

(*a*) The financing of such operations is the collective responsibility of all States Members of the United Nations and, accordingly, the costs of peacekeeping operations are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

(*b*) In order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures under the regular budget of the United Nations;

(*c*) Whereas the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions to peacekeeping operations, the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures;

(*d*) The special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security should be borne in mind in connection with their contributions to the financing of peace and security operations;

(*e*) Where circumstances warrant, the General Assembly should give special consideration to the situation of any Member States which are victims of, and those which are otherwise involved in, the events or actions leading to a peacekeeping operation;

3. *Also reaffirms* that assessment rates for the financing of peacekeeping operations should be based on the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations, with an appropriate and transparent system of adjustments based on the levels of Member States, consistent with the principles outlined above;

4. *Further reaffirms* that the permanent members of the Security Council should form a separate level and that, consistent with their special responsibilities for the maintenance of peace and security, they should be assessed at a higher rate than for the regular budget;

5. *Reaffirms* that all discounts resulting from adjustments to the regular budget assessment rates of Member States in levels C through J shall be borne on a pro rata basis by the permanent members of the Security Council;

6. *Also reaffirms* that the least developed countries should be placed in a separate level and receive the highest rate of discount available under the scale;

7. *Further reaffirms* that the statistical data used for setting the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be the same as the data used in preparing the regular budget scale of assessments, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Reaffirms* the decision to create levels of discount to facilitate automatic, predictable movement between categories on the basis of the per capita gross national income of Member States;

9. *Decides* that South Sudan should be assigned to level I for 2011 and 2012;

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[36] A/67/224.

[37] Ibid., annex II.

10. *Notes* that, pursuant to its resolution 47/217 of 23 December 1992, the assessment of South Sudan for the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund will be calculated by the application of its first rate of assessment for peacekeeping operations to the authorized level of the Fund;

11. *Decides* that, as from 1 January 2013, the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be based on the ten levels of contribution and parameters set forth in the table below:

| *Level* | *Criterion* | *Threshold in United States dollars (2013–2015)* | *Discount (percentage)* |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | Permanent members of the Security Council | Not applicable | Premium |
| B | All Member States, except those covered below and level A | Not applicable | 0 |
| C | As listed in the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/235 | Not applicable | 7.5 |
| D | Member States with per capita gross national income less than 2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors) | Under 16,676 | 20 |
| E | Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.8 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors) | Under 15,009 | 40 |
| F | Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.6 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors) | Under 13,341 | 60 |
| G | Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.4 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors) | Under 11,674 | 70 |
| H | Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors) | Under 10,006 | 80 (or 70 on a voluntary basis)[a] |
| I | Member States with per capita gross national income less than the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors) | Under 8,338 | 80 |
| J | Least developed countries (except level A and C contributors) | Not applicable | 90 |

[a] Member States in level H* have a discount of 70 per cent.

12. *Encourages* States Members of the United Nations at all levels to move up voluntarily in their level of contribution;

13. *Welcomes with appreciation* the commitment of certain Member States to undertake voluntarily to contribute to peacekeeping operations at a rate higher than required by their per capita income;

14. *Recalls* its decision that, at any time during the scale period, a Member State may make a voluntary commitment to contribute at a rate higher than its current rate by informing the General Assembly through the Secretary-General, and the Assembly may take note of that decision;

15. *Reaffirms* that Member States will be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they are eligible, unless they indicate a decision to move to a higher level;

16. *Also reaffirms* that, for purposes of determining the eligibility of Member States for contribution in particular levels during the 2013–2015 scale period, the average per capita gross national income of all Member States will be 8,338 United States dollars and the per capita gross national income of Member States will be the average of 2005 to 2010 figures;

17. *Further reaffirms* that transition periods of two years will apply to countries moving up by two levels, and that transition periods of three years will apply to countries moving up by three or more levels without prejudice to paragraph 15 above;

18. *Reaffirms* that transitions as specified above will occur in equal increments over the transition period as designated above;

19. *Endorses* the updated composition of levels to be applied in adjusting regular budget scale rates to establish Member States' rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations for the period from 2013 to 2015;[38]

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue updating the composition of the levels described above on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established above, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

21. *Recognizes* the need to reform the current methodology for apportioning the expenses of peacekeeping operations;

22. *Decides* to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations, during its seventieth session.

## RESOLUTION 67/240

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/667, para. 7)

### 67/240. United Nations pension system

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 63/252 of 24 December 2008, 65/249 of 24 December 2010 and section V of its resolution 66/247 of 24 December 2011,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2012,[39] including the financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 2011, the audit opinion and report of the Board of Auditors thereon, the information provided on the internal audits of the Fund and the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and of the Audit Committee, the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the Fund and measures undertaken to increase diversification[40] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[41]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2012,[39] in particular the actions taken by the Board as set out in chapter II.B of the report;

2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[41] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

#### Actuarial matters

3. *Notes with deep concern* the results of the actuarial valuation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, which revealed a deficit of 1.87 per cent of pensionable remuneration as at 31 December 2011, which was the Fund's second deficit, following that of 0.38 per cent of pensionable remuneration as at 31 December 2009, and in this regard emphasizes the need to make every effort to address the actuarial situation of the Fund to ensure its long-term sustainability;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Fund meeting its target annual real rate of return of 3.5 per cent over the long term;

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[38] A/67/224/Add.1, annex.

[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/67/9).

[40] A/C.5/67/2.

[41] A/67/525.

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Board to establish a working group to consider possible measures to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Fund, and looks forward to receiving information on the findings and recommendations of the working group in the context of future reports of the Board;

### Financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and report of the Board of Auditors

6. *Notes* that the Board of Auditors issued an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements of the Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 2011;[42]

7. *Also notes* the improved status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors by the Fund;

8. *Further notes* the progress made by the Fund in the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

### Benefit provisions and pension adjustment system

9. *Notes* the advice of the consulting actuary and the Committee of Actuaries of the Fund that, given the serious impact that increased longevity has had on the actuarial situation of the Fund, raising the Fund's normal retirement age to 65 would help to improve the actuarial situation of the Fund;

10. *Authorizes* the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to increase the normal retirement age to 65 for new participants in the Fund, with effect not later than from 1 January 2014, subject to a decision of the General Assembly on a corresponding increase in the mandatory age of separation;

11. *Concurs*, in accordance with article 13 of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and with a view to securing continuity of pension rights, with the new transfer agreements of the Fund with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the African Development Bank, as approved by the Board and set out in annex XIV to its report, which will become effective 1 January 2013;

12. *Approves* new article 45 bis, as set out in annex XI to the report of the Board, which allows the Fund, in very specific circumstances, to pay a portion of a retiree's benefit directly to the retiree's former employing organization towards restitution in cases where amounts had been embezzled by the staff member from the organization;

13. *Also approves* the technical changes in the Regulations of the Fund and the pension adjustment system, as set out in annexes XI and XIII, respectively, to the report of the Board, in accordance with past decisions and amendments adopted by the Board and the General Assembly;

14. *Takes note* of the amendments to the Administrative Rules of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, as set out in annex XII to the report of the Board, to refine the Administrative Rules and align them with the Regulations of the Fund;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and in this regard stresses that any consideration by the Board of a medical standard for participation in the Fund should be in full compliance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 66/229 of 24 December 2011 on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto;

### Investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the Fund and measures undertaken to increase diversification[40] and the observations of the Board, as set out in its report;

17. *Recalls* its resolution 33/121 B of 19 December 1978;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to diversify its investments between developed, developing and emerging markets, wherever this serves the interests of the participants and the beneficiaries of the Fund, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that decisions

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[42] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/67/9), annex X.

concerning the investments of the Fund in any country are implemented prudently, taking fully into account the four main criteria for investment, namely, safety, profitability, liquidity and convertibility, under the current volatile market conditions;

19. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to explore prospects in all markets, taking into account risk-return profiles and always applying sound risk management techniques, and taking fully into account the four main criteria for investment of the Fund.

## RESOLUTION 67/241

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/669, para. 6)

### 67/241. Administration of justice at the United Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* section XI of its resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001, its resolutions 57/307 of 15 April 2003, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 59/283 of 13 April 2005, 61/261 of 4 April 2007, 62/228 of 22 December 2007, 63/253 of 24 December 2008, 64/233 of 22 December 2009, 65/251 of 24 December 2010 and 66/237 of 24 December 2011, as well as its decisions 63/531 of 11 December 2008 and 65/513 of 6 December 2010,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General on administration of justice at the United Nations,[43] on amendments to the rules of procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal[44] and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,[45] the report of the Internal Justice Council on administration of justice at the United Nations,[46] the letter dated 23 October 2012 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,[47] the letter dated 10 October 2012 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Assembly[48] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[49]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on administration of justice at the United Nations,[43] on amendments to the rules of procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal[44] and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services;[45]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[49] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

## I

## System of administration of justice

3. *Recalls* section I, paragraph 5, of its resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999, in which it underlined its full respect for the prerogatives and responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirms that the resolutions of the General Assembly and the decisions of the International Civil Service Commission are binding on the Secretary-General and on the Organization;

4. *Also recalls* paragraph 6 of its resolution 66/237 and paragraph 9 of its resolution 65/251, and stresses that all elements of the system of administration of justice must work in accordance with the Charter and the legal and regulatory framework approved by the General Assembly;

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[43] A/67/265 and Corr.1.

[44] A/67/349.

[45] A/67/172.

[46] A/67/98.

[47] A/C.5/67/9.

[48] A/67/538.

[49] A/67/547.

5. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with paragraph 28 of resolution 63/253, the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal shall not have any powers beyond those conferred under their respective statutes;[50]

6. *Emphasizes* that the decisions of the General Assembly related to administrative and budgetary matters are subject to review by the Assembly alone;

7. *Reaffirms* that recourse to general principles of law and the Charter by the Tribunals is to take place within the context of and consistent with their statutes and the relevant General Assembly resolutions, regulations, rules and administrative issuances;

8. *Notes* that some decisions taken by the Tribunals may have contradicted the provisions of General Assembly resolutions on human resources management-related issues;

9. *Reaffirms* its decision, contained in paragraph 4 of resolution 61/261, to establish a new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice consistent with the relevant rules of international law and the principles of the rule of law and due process to ensure respect for the rights and obligations of staff members and the accountability of managers and staff members alike;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the achievements produced since the inception of the new system of administration of justice, regarding both the disposal of the backlog and the addressing of new cases;

11. *Acknowledges* the evolving nature of the new system of administration of justice and the need to carefully monitor its implementation to ensure that it remains within the parameters set out by the General Assembly;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of the principle of judicial independence in the system of administration of justice;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 36 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to make every effort to institutionalize good management practices in order to address the underlying factors that give rise to disputes in the workplace and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

14. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring access for all staff members to the new system of administration of justice, regardless of their duty station;

15. *Invites* all who are involved in the implementation and functioning of the system of administration of justice, including managers and staff members, to contribute to strengthening the system of administration of justice, aiming to ensure that the system has a positive impact on staff-management relations and improves the performance of both staff and managers;

16. *Notes with concern* that performance management is highlighted as the single most important cross-cutting issue in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services;

17. *Recognizes* that sound performance management can greatly contribute to avoiding conflict in the workplace, and requests the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to continue to develop and implement a credible, fair and fully functioning performance appraisal system;

18. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 66/237, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, for consideration at the main part of its sixty-eighth session, an updated report on issues relevant to its review of the statutes of the Tribunals;

19. *Also recalls* paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, for consideration at its sixty-eighth session, a proposal for conducting an interim independent assessment of the formal system of administration of justice;

20. *Decides* that the assessment requested in paragraph 19 above should be conducted in a cost-efficient manner and within existing resources;

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[50] Resolution 63/253, annexes I and II.

## II

## Informal system

21. *Recognizes* that the informal system of administration of justice is an efficient and effective option for staff who seek redress of grievances and for managers to participate in;

22. *Reaffirms* that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice, emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system in order to avoid unnecessary litigation, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to recommend to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session additional measures to encourage recourse to informal resolution of disputes and to avoid unnecessary litigation;

23. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to ensure that management responds to requests of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services in a timely manner;

24. *Stresses* the importance of developing a culture of dialogue and amicable resolution of disputes through the informal system, and requests the Secretary-General to propose, at the main part of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, measures to encourage informal dispute resolution;

25. *Recalls* paragraph 153 of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and requests the Secretary-General to take concrete measures to address the current organizational culture wherein there is a tendency to shift responsibility for the resolution of conflict upwards in the organizational hierarchy;

26. *Welcomes* the recommendations to address systemic and cross-cutting issues contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-eighth session on progress made on the implementation of those recommendations;

27. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General, contained in paragraph 67 (*a*) of resolution 62/228, paragraph 21 of resolution 63/253, paragraphs 16 to 18 of resolution 65/251 and paragraph 19 of resolution 66/237, to report to it on the revised terms of reference for the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the terms of reference and guidelines for the Office are promulgated as soon as possible;

28. *Recalls* paragraph 18 of its resolution 66/237 regarding the establishment of a single integrated and decentralized office of the ombudsman for the United Nations Secretariat, funds and programmes, and acknowledges that progress has been made in this regard;

29. *Also recalls* paragraph 20 of resolution 66/237, welcomes the information provided informally by the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services on the financial and administrative implications resulting from settlements reached through informal dispute resolution, and requests the Office to provide to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session another informal briefing on such implications;

30. *Recognizes* the positive impact of the establishment of the seven regional offices of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, in Bangkok, Geneva, Nairobi, Santiago, Vienna, the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda;

## III

## Formal system

31. *Recognizes* the roles of the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal;

32. *Recalls* article 7 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal and article 6 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal, and encourages the Tribunals to continue to expand, as appropriate, their practice of consultation in the process for developing amendments to their rules of procedure;

33. *Requests* that the rules of procedure of the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal[51] be amended accordingly whenever a decision of the General Assembly entails a change in the rules of procedure;

34. *Recalls* paragraph 35 of its resolution 66/237, and notes that corresponding changes in the rules of procedure of the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal have not yet been made;

35. *Approves* the amendments to article 9 of the rules of procedure of the Appeals Tribunal contained in annex II to the report of the Secretary-General on amendments to the rules of procedure of the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal;

36. *Welcomes* the issuance and dissemination of guides on lessons learned from the judgements of the Tribunals;

37. *Notes* the increasing number of cases proceeding to formal adjudication;

38. *Also notes* that the authority of judges and the applicability of their judgements derive from decisions of the General Assembly, including the statute of the Dispute Tribunal and the statute of the Appeals Tribunal;

39. *Recalls* its decisions in paragraphs 30 and 31 of its resolution 63/253 that the conditions of service of the judges of the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal shall be treated separately from the conditions of service of other judicial appointments in the United Nations system;

40. *Emphasizes* the importance of recruiting the candidates best able to shape the Appeals Tribunal as a pillar of judicial excellence, and invites the Internal Justice Council, with reference to the recommendation in paragraph 35 of its report,[46] to specify its recommendations on the stipulated qualifications for the Appeals Tribunal judges;

41. *Recalls* paragraph 52 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and approves the mechanism for addressing possible misconduct of judges proposed by the Secretary-General in section B of annex VII to his report on administration of justice at the United Nations;

42. *Recognizes* the importance of effective measures against the filing of frivolous applications, encourages the judges to make full use of those measures currently available to them, and invites the Internal Justice Council to provide its views on appropriate options in this regard;

43. *Takes note* of paragraph 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides to consider the request for an additional Legal Officer position at the P-3 level in the Management Evaluation Unit in the context of the proposed budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations at the second part of its resumed sixty-seventh session;

44. *Stresses* the need to ensure that all individuals acting as legal representatives, whether staff members or external counsel, are subject to the same standards of professional conduct applicable in the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Internal Justice Council and other relevant bodies, to prepare a code of conduct for legal representatives who are external individuals and not staff members, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-eighth session;

45. *Decides* to consider the continued need for the P-3 Legal Officer position in the Office of Staff Legal Assistance in Nairobi in the context of the proposed budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations at the second part of its resumed sixty-seventh session;

46. *Welcomes* the positive contributions of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance to the system of administration of justice, and decides to revert, at its sixty-eighth session, to the issue of the mandate and functioning of the Office;

47. *Decides* that the overall level of resources for the Office of Staff Legal Assistance shall be maintained at its current level until the General Assembly takes a decision regarding a staff-funded scheme;

48. *Notes* that the report of the Secretary-General on administration of justice at the United Nations contains a number of joint financing options for the Office of Staff Legal Assistance by the Organization and the staff, and in

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[51] Resolution 64/119, annexes I and II.

this regard, requests the Secretary-General, when submitting a single preferred proposal for consideration and approval by the General Assembly, at the main part of its sixty-eighth session, to do so in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including the Internal Justice Council and staff representatives;

49. *Recalls* paragraph 34 of its resolution 66/237, paragraph 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, article 10.7 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal and article 9.3 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to solicit responses to facilitate the submission of further information to the General Assembly, for consideration at the main part of its sixty-eighth session, on the practice of tribunals in other international organizations and in Member States regarding awards for moral damages, emotional distress, procedural irregularities and violations of due process;

50. *Notes* the importance of ensuring that all categories of personnel have access to recourse mechanisms to resolve disputes;

51. *Takes note* of the proposed expedited arbitration procedures for consultants and individual contractors developed by the Secretary-General contained in annex IV to his report on administration of justice at the United Nations, and decides to remain seized of the matter;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include information on disputes involving non-staff personnel in the context of both management evaluation and informal mediation in his respective reports and to provide information also on existing measures to institutionalize good management practice that aim to avoid or mitigate disputes involving the different categories of non-staff personnel;

## IV

## Financial implications and cost-sharing arrangements

53. *Expresses concern* that the agreements on cost-sharing arrangements for the totality of the internal justice system has not yet been finalized and that the full amount of reimbursement has not yet been received by the participating entities;

54. *Recalls* paragraph 43 of its resolution 66/237, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to expedite the finalization of agreements on cost-sharing arrangements for the totality of the internal justice system, including on the expected reimbursement of approximately 4.5 million United States dollars from the participating United Nations entities, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-eighth session;

## V

## Other issues

55. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of its resolution 61/261 and paragraph 37 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-eighth session proposals with reference to accountability of individuals where violations of the rules and procedures of the Organization have led to financial loss;

56. *Notes with concern* the delays in selecting new members of the Internal Justice Council, notes that the lack of a functioning Council jeopardizes the control mechanisms of the formal part of the system of administration of justice, requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress in appointing members to fill the remaining vacancies on the Council, and requests the Council to provide recommendations and to report on lessons learned drawn from this situation;

57. *Recalls* paragraph 45 of its resolution 66/237, stresses that the Internal Justice Council can help to ensure independence, professionalism and accountability in the system of administration of justice, and requests the Secretary-General to entrust the Council with including the views of both the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal in its annual reports;

58. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the reports requested in paragraphs 13, 18, 19, 44, 48, 49, 54 and 55 of the present resolution in a single comprehensive report on administration of justice to be submitted to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-eighth session;

59. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to consider the legal aspects of the comprehensive report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the role of the Fifth Committee as the Main Committee entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

60. *Reaffirms* the need for fully equipped courtrooms and other administrative requirements for the Tribunals, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of functional courtrooms with adequate facilities as a matter of urgency.

## RESOLUTION 67/242

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/674, para. 6)

### 67/242. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2012–2013, of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[52] the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda[53] and the recommendations contained therein and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[54]

*Recalling* its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the Tribunal and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 66/238 of 24 December 2011,

1. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2012–2013, of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda;[52]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[54] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Notes* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report,[53] and in this regard emphasizes the need for their timely implementation as a matter of priority;

4. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of section II of its resolution 66/238 on matters relating to the recruitment and administration of human resources;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure effective implementation of the completion strategy for the Tribunal;

6. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General to facilitate the selection of staff of the Tribunal who are subject to downsizing, in compliance with the existing staff rules and regulations;

7. *Reiterates* paragraph 7 of its resolution 65/252 of 24 December 2010;

8. *Decides* to defer further consideration of post-related recosting for inflation and exchange rate projections, as well as of adjustments to standard costs relating to payroll, common staff costs and vacancy

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[52] A/67/594.

[53] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5K* (A/67/5/Add.11), chap. II.

[54] A/67/646.

rates for 2013, to the time of its consideration of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, in order to ensure that appropriation is in line with actual post-related expenditure;

9. *Also decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 of a total amount of 182,163,600 United States dollars gross (169,508,000 dollars net) for the biennium 2012–2013, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

10. *Further decides*, for the year 2013, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 48,176,025 dollars gross (44,870,050 dollars net), including 5,270,250 dollars gross (4,986,100 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

11. *Decides*, for the year 2013, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 48,176,025 dollars gross (44,870,050 dollars net), including 5,270,250 dollars gross (4,986,100 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

12. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 10 and 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 6,611,950 dollars, including 568,300 dollars, being the increase in the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Tribunal for the biennium 2012–2013.

## Annex

### Financing for the biennium 2012–2013 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

| | *Gross* | *Net* |
|---|---|---|
| | *(United States dollars)* | |
| Initial appropriation for the biennium 2012–2013 (resolution 66/238) | 171 623 100 | 159 535 800 |
| First performance report for the biennium 2012–2013 (A/67/594) | | |
| Revised estimates based on post-related actual expenditure experience and updated projected rates | 188 279 300 | 175 235 300 |
| Revised estimates based on post-related actual expenditure experience | 182 163 600 | 169 508 000 |
| Appropriation recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/67/646) | 171 623 100 | 159 535 800 |
| **Revised appropriation for the biennium 2012–2013 recommended by the Fifth Committee** | **182 163 600** | **169 508 000** |
| Assessment for 2012 | (85 811 550) | (79 767 900) |
| **Balance to be assessed for 2013** | **96 352 050** | **89 740 100** |
| *Including:* | | |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2013 | 48 176 025 | 44 870 050 |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2013 | 48 176 025 | 44 870 050 |

## RESOLUTION 67/243

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/675, para. 10), by a recorded vote of 139 to none, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* None

*Abstaining:* Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

### 67/243. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2012–2013, of the Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,[55] the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia[56] and the recommendations contained therein and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[57]

*Recalling* its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the Tribunal and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 66/239 of 24 December 2011,

1. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2012–2013, of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;[55]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[57] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Notes* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report,[56] and in this regard emphasizes the need for their timely implementation as a matter of priority;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Tribunal prepares and presents, as appropriate, by 15 April 2013, a consolidated action plan to manage the completion of its work and the transition to the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals by the end of 2014;

5. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of section II of its resolution 66/239 on matters relating to the recruitment and administration of human resources;

6. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure effective implementation of the completion strategy for the Tribunal;

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[55] A/67/595.

[56] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5L* (A/67/5/Add.12), chap. II.

[57] A/67/646.

7. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General to facilitate the selection of staff of the Tribunal who are subject to downsizing, in compliance with the existing staff rules and regulations;

8. *Reiterates* paragraph 7 of its resolution 65/253 of 24 December 2010;

9. *Decides* to defer further consideration of post-related recosting for inflation and exchange rate projections, as well as of adjustments to standard costs relating to payroll, common staff costs and vacancy rates for 2013, to the time of its consideration of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, in order to ensure that appropriation is in line with actual post-related expenditure;

10. *Also decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 of a total amount of 283,067,700 United States dollars gross (252,036,400 dollars net) for the biennium 2012–2013, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

11. *Further decides*, for the year 2013, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 71,274,825 dollars gross (63,314,625 dollars net), including 1,090,675 dollars gross (685,925 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

12. *Decides*, for the year 2013, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 71,274,825 dollars gross (63,314,625 dollars net), including 1,090,675 dollars gross (685,925 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

13. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 11 and 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 15,920,400 dollars, including 809,500 dollars, being the increase in the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Tribunal for the biennium 2012–2013.

## Annex

### Financing for the biennium 2012–2013 of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

| | *Gross* | *Net* |
|---|---|---|
| | *(United States dollars)* | |
| Initial appropriation for the biennium 2012–2013 (resolution 66/239) | 281 036 100 | 250 814 300 |
| First performance report for the biennium 2012–2013 (A/67/595) | | |
| Revised estimates based on post-related actual expenditure experience and updated projected rates | 290 133 200 | 258 103 100 |
| Revised estimates based on post-related actual expenditure experience | 283 067 700 | 252 036 400 |
| Appropriation recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/67/646) | 281 036 100 | 250 814 300 |
| **Revised appropriation for the biennium 2012–2013 recommended by the Fifth Committee** | **283 067 700** | **252 036 400** |
| Estimated income for the biennium 2012–2013 | (299 500) | (299 500) |
| Assessment for 2012 | (140 368 300) | (125 257 400) |
| **Balance to be assessed for 2013** | **142 549 650** | **126 629 250** |
| *Including:* | | |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2013 | 71 274 825 | 63 314 625 |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2013 | 71 274 825 | 63 314 625 |

## RESOLUTION 67/244

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/676, para. 6)

### 67/244. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2012–2013[58] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[59]

*Recalling* its resolution 66/240 A of 24 December 2011 on the Mechanism,

1. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2012–2013;[58]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[59] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that the recruitment process for the Mechanism is completed in a timely manner;

4. *Decides* to defer further consideration of post-related recosting for inflation and exchange rate projections, as well as of adjustments to standard costs relating to payroll, common staff costs and vacancy rates for 2013, to the time of its consideration of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, in order to ensure that appropriation is in line with actual post-related expenditure;

5. *Also decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals of a total amount of 53,676,500 United States dollars gross (51,085,600 dollars net) for the biennium 2012–2013, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

6. *Further decides*, for the year 2013, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 13,645,325 dollars gross (12,961,525 dollars net), including 1,202,400 dollars gross (1,130,250 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

7. *Decides*, for the year 2013, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 13,645,325 dollars gross (12,961,525 dollars net), including 1,202,400 dollars gross (1,130,250 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

8. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 6 and 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 1,367,600 dollars, including 144,300 dollars, being the increase in the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Mechanism for the biennium 2012–2013.

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[58] A/67/596.

[59] A/67/646.

**Annex**

**Financing for the biennium 2012–2013 of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals**

| | *Gross* | *Net* |
|---|---|---|
| | *(United States dollars)* | |
| Initial appropriation for the biennium 2012–2013 (resolution 66/240 A) | 49 771 700 | 47 325 100 |
| First performance report for the biennium 2012–2013 (A/67/596) | | |
| Revised estimates based on post-related actual expenditure experience and updated projected rates | 54 756 700 | 51 908 700 |
| Revised estimates based on post-related actual expenditure experience | 53 676 500 | 51 085 600 |
| Appropriation recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/67/646) | 49 771 700 | 47 325 100 |
| **Revised appropriation for the biennium 2012–2013 recommended by the Fifth Committee** | **53 676 500** | **51 085 600** |
| Amount not to be assessed for 2013 (resolutions 66/240 A and B) | (1 500 000) | (1 500 000) |
| Assessment for 2012 | (24 885 850) | (23 662 550) |
| **Balance to be assessed for 2013** | **27 290 650** | **25 923 050** |
| *Including:* | | |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2013 | 13 645 325 | 12 961 525 |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2013 | 13 645 325 | 12 961 525 |

## RESOLUTION 67/245

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/663, para. 6)

### 67/245. Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the note by the Secretary-General on the financing arrangements for the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste[60] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[61]

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 2037 (2012) of 23 February 2012, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 31 December 2012,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 61/249 A of 22 December 2006 and 61/249 B of 2 April 2007 on the financing of the Mission, and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 66/270 of 21 June 2012,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[61]

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[60] A/67/618.

[61] A/67/638.

**Financing of the appropriation**

2. *Decides*, taking into account the amount of 78,393,550 United States dollars already apportioned under the terms of its resolution 66/270 for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2012, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 11,590,700 dollars for the maintenance of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste for the same period in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 64/249 of 24 December 2009, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2012, as set out in its resolution 64/248 of 24 December 2009;

3. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 2 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 414,900 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Mission;

4. *Further decides* to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 13,485,550 dollars for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2013, inclusive of 10,094,000 dollars for the anticipated administrative liquidation of the Mission, subject to a decision by the Security Council, for the period from 1 January to 30 April 2013, 3,215,950 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 175,600 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2013 in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 67/239 of 24 December 2012, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2013, as set out in its resolution 67/238 of 24 December 2012;

5. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 4 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 827,750 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 436,900 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 322,600 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 68,250 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

6. *Also decides* to keep under review during its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste".

## RESOLUTION 67/246

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/677, para. 39)

### 67/246. Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013

*The General Assembly*,

### I

### Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

*Recalling* its resolution 58/284 of 8 April 2004, section VII of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, section II of its resolution 59/294 of 22 June 2005, section XII of its resolution 65/259 of 24 December 2010, section IX of its resolution 66/247 of 24 December 201, its resolution 66/248 A of 24 December 2011, section I of its resolution 66/263 of 21 June 2012 and its decision 66/563 of 21 June 2012,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council[62] and on the request for a subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone,[63] as well as the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[64]

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[62] A/67/346 and Add.1–7.

[63] A/67/606.

[64] A/67/604 and Add.1 and 2 and A/67/648.

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[62,63]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[64] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting cooperation among United Nations missions in order to increase their effectiveness and efficiency, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard, without prejudice to the unique mandate and the approved budget for each mission;

4. *Regrets* the recurrent late submission of the reports on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, which hinders their proper examination by the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions no later than the last week of October;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, before the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, a plan to ensure that all the reports related to special political missions are provided to the Fifth Committee within the time frame set out in paragraph 4 above;

6. *Expresses concern* that the cuts proposed by the Secretary-General in the budgets of special political missions were presented without the analysis and explanation that would have more effectively facilitated their consideration by the General Assembly;

7. *Requests* that future proposals on the abolition of posts be accompanied by comprehensive information on their merits, including the reasons underpinning the proposal and in the context of the mandate of the mission;

8. *Reaffirms* paragraph 1 of its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011;

9. *Recalls* paragraphs 19 and 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[65] and requests the Secretary-General to include the information requested in the introduction to future proposed budgets;

10. *Also recalls* paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[65] and requests the Secretary-General to further improve the presentation and content of his budget proposals for special political missions by presenting comprehensive information related to cross-cutting issues in a format similar to that of the overview report on the financing of peacekeeping operations;

11. *Further recalls* paragraph 57 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[65] and stresses the importance of ensuring that special political missions avoid relying on extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of their core mandated activities;

12. *Emphasizes* that a broader assessment of the United Nations presence in Cyprus should be conducted in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions;

13. *Decides* to establish the position of Administrative Assistant at Headquarters for the Office of the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for Syria;

14. *Recalls* paragraphs 62 and 70 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[65] and decides to establish the position of Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Yemen in New York;

15. *Decides* to maintain the 2013 budget of the Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire at the same level as in 2012;

16. *Takes note* of paragraph 83 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[65]

17. *Also takes note* of paragraphs 124, 126 and 129 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[65]

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[65] A/67/604.

18. *Emphasizes* that expected accomplishment (e) of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya[66] should read "Improved control over arms and related materiel of all types, in particular man-portable surface-to-air missiles, and improved border security and/or State control over borders", in accordance with Security Council resolution 2040 (2012) of 12 March 2012;

19. *Decides* to establish the position of Administrative Assistant in the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat in New York to support backstopping for the United Nations Support Mission in Libya;

20. *Takes note* of paragraph 177 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[65] and approves the reclassification of the position of Chief Electoral Adviser from the D-2 to the D-1 level;

21. *Decides* not to incorporate the Child Protection Unit of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan into the Human Rights Unit;

22. *Also decides* not to abolish one P-4 and one P-3 position in the Child Protection Unit of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and to accommodate these positions within the overall level of resources approved for the Assistance Mission;

23. *Recalls* paragraph 238 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[65] and in this regard decides not to approve the redeployment and reclassification of one P-2 level Associate Political Affairs Officer position from the Security Section to the Office of Political Affairs of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq;

24. *Also recalls* Security Council resolution 1315 (2000) of 14 August 2000;

25. *Further recalls* that the expenses of the Special Court for Sierra Leone shall be borne predominantly and primarily by voluntary contributions from the international community, and emphasizes the exceptional nature of the special subventions authorized by the General Assembly to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Special Court;

26. *Stresses* that the expenses of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone shall be borne by voluntary contributions from the international community and that the parties and the Management Committee may explore alternative means of financing the Residual Special Court;

27. *Notes*, as an exceptional measure, the funding requirement for the Special Court for Sierra Leone of up to 14 million United States dollars, covering the period from 8 December 2012 to 31 December 2013, to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Special Court;

28. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 14 million dollars for the period from 8 December 2012 to 31 December 2013 for a subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone;

29. *Decides* that the amount referred to in paragraph 28 above is authorized on the understanding that:

(*a*) Any regular budget funds appropriated for the Special Court for Sierra Leone will be refunded to the United Nations at the time of the liquidation of the Special Court, should sufficient voluntary contributions be received;

(*b*) The Secretariat of the United Nations and the Management Committee, the Registrar and other senior officials of the Special Court will intensify their efforts to fund the activities of the Special Court through voluntary contributions;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to deliver to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-seventh session an oral statement on the implementation of the subvention and on the status of voluntary contributions for the Special Court for Sierra Leone;

31. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

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[66] A/67/346/Add.3, para. 340.

32. *Approves* budgets totalling 566,476,100 dollars for the 33 special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, as listed in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General;[67]

33. *Also approves* charges totalling 442,779,600 dollars net, corresponding to the undistributed balance in the provision for special political missions for the biennium 2012–2013;

34. *Decides* to appropriate under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an amount of 124,812,600 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

35. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 7,471,300 dollars under section 37, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

## II

### Progress in the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

*Recalling* its resolution 56/270 of 27 March 2002, section IV of its resolution 58/272 of 23 December 2003, sections IX and X of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007, section I of its resolution 63/263 of 24 December 2008, its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, section III of its resolution 65/259 and section VII of its resolution 66/247,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General on progress in the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa[68] and on the construction of additional office facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi,[69] as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[68,69]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Welcomes* the value engineering exercises that were undertaken in the construction of office facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General contained in section VII, paragraph 3, of its resolution 66/247;

4. *Also welcomes* the unencumbered balance arising from deliberate management decisions at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to use lessons learned to implement such measures to the extent possible in other United Nations construction projects;

## III

### Umoja enterprise resource planning project

*Recalling* section II of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006, section II of its resolution 63/262 of 24 December 2008, its resolution 64/243, section II.A of its resolution 65/259, its resolution 66/246 and section III of its resolution 66/263,

*Having considered* the fourth progress report of the Secretary-General on the Umoja enterprise resource planning project,[71] the first annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the United Nations Umoja enterprise resource planning system,[72] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73]

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[67] A/67/346.

[68] A/67/216.

[69] A/67/217.

[70] A/67/484.

[71] A/67/360.

1. *Takes note* of the fourth progress report of the Secretary-General on the Umoja enterprise resource planning project[71] and the first annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the Umoja enterprise resource planning system;[72]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[73]

3. *Accepts* the first annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the Umoja enterprise resource planning system for the biennium ended 31 December 2011;[72]

4. *Approves* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;[72]

5. *Emphasizes* that the Umoja enterprise resource planning project should be viewed primarily as a business project driven by business process demands;

6. *Stresses* the centrality of the leadership and oversight of the Secretary-General and of senior management, as well as of the commitment of all departments to completing the Umoja project, in order to avoid a recurrence of the mistakes and delays in its implementation to date and thereby their negative implications for the Organization;

7. *Reiterates* that successful implementation of the Umoja enterprise resource planning project requires the full support and commitment of senior management, as well as close and continuous engagement with key stakeholders, and calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure this through his performance management and accountability mechanism;

8. *Welcomes* the steps taken to address the Umoja governance crisis, in particular the measures taken thus far to allocate responsibility and accountability for the project and to clarify the roles of the project owner, the project director and the process owners, as well as the designation of the Under-Secretary-General for Management as the main owner of the project and Chair of the steering committee for the project;

9. *Also welcomes* the comprehensive audit of the implementation of the Umoja project undertaken by the Board of Auditors in response to the request contained in paragraph 93 of resolution 66/246 and, in this regard, fully endorses the Board's main findings and recommendations, in particular, its deep concern about the failings in the governance and management of the project since its inception and the length of time that a project of such scale, complexity, scope and budget has been managed without a detailed implementation plan or adequate project management controls, and requests the Secretary-General, building on the lessons learned in this regard, to design and implement a zero-tolerance policy, in this and other major projects of the Organization, for lack of managerial accountability and responsibility and to report thereon in his fifth annual progress report;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 36 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73] and reiterates that close cooperation and coordination at all levels of the Secretariat will be required in order to meet organizational goals and ensure a successful outcome, as will the commitment of senior managers to implement at the operational level any central decisions emanating from the project, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to closely monitor the adequacy and effectiveness of the project's governance, decision-making and risk management structures, as well as of the level of cooperation and coordination throughout the Secretariat, to take corrective action promptly, as required, and to include information thereon in his fifth annual progress report;

11. *Stresses* the critical role of the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat, and in this regard requests the Office to provide full cooperation and support to the Umoja team;

12. *Expresses its ongoing concern* about delays in project implementation and the projected additional funding requirements to carry the project through to the full implementation of Umoja Extension 2;

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[72] A/67/164.

[73] A/67/565.

13. *Underlines* the fact that the overall qualitative and quantitative benefits related to the Umoja project, which were identified in the first and second annual progress reports,[74] remain valid, regrets the delay in the realization of these benefits, and repeats its request to the Secretary-General to maximize benefits and to provide enhanced clarity and precision as to their scope and budgetary significance in future annual progress reports;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 63 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[73] and paragraph 19 of the report of the Board of Auditors,[72] and requests the Secretary-General to reassess the benefits model and elaborate clear benefit realization plans at the start of the implementation process and to report thereon in his next annual progress report;

15. *Stresses with concern* that delays in the implementation of the Umoja project postpone the realization of benefits, as mentioned in paragraph 64 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[73]

16. *Recalls* section II, paragraph 3, of its resolution 63/262, and requests the Secretary-General to respond to the request contained in paragraph 83 of its resolution 66/246, and to report thereon in the next annual progress report;

17. *Also recalls* paragraph 40 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73] notes that no action was taken earlier to establish a detailed project plan linking the budget to milestones and deliverables, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his next annual progress report a detailed analysis of the project costs against clear budget lines and deliverables and a detailed project plan, including milestones, deliverables, costs and baseline information that can be used to assess progress as the project evolves;

18. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the Umoja project is completed within the budget as approved in its resolution 64/243;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measures, while maintaining effective oversight, and consistent with sound management practices, to reduce projected delays in the full implementation of the Umoja project and bring costs down, and to include in his fifth annual progress report detailed information on actions taken;

20. *Recalls* paragraph 57 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73] and requests the Secretary-General to continue to develop in-house expertise on the enterprise resource planning system and ensure the transfer of knowledge from consultants to programme and project staff;

21. *Notes with concern* that significant indirect costs related to the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system were not fully identified in the annual progress reports, which may lead to additional risks and budgetary implications for the Member States;

22. *Recalls* paragraph 90 of its resolution 66/246, notes that no specific information has been shared with Member States concerning the related costs and activities of the Umoja project, and reiterates its requests to the Secretary-General to include such information in his next annual progress report and to make every effort to fully implement such activities within the approved budget level of each department;

23. *Takes note* of the revised requirement for the Umoja project for 2012 in the amount of 65,244,100 dollars, and approves the proposed requirements for 2013 in the amount of 69,645,000 dollars;

24. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to update Member States through regular informal briefings to the Fifth Committee at the first and second parts of the resumed sessions of the General Assembly, as well as by submitting annual progress reports, on all aspects of the implementation of the Umoja project, including its current status, significant activities carried out since the previous report and risk analysis information outlining any risks identified, actions to be taken, status and trends, and to update the relevant information on the Umoja project website on a regular basis;

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[74] A/64/380 and A/65/389.

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full implementation, without further delay, of the proposed revised Umoja deployment strategy, and approves the complete implementation of the full scope of the project by December 2018 at the latest, taking into account the comments and recommendations contained in paragraph 53 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[73]

26. *Approves* the revised plan of completing by December 2015 the design, build and deployment of Umoja Foundation and Umoja Extension 1, and recalls that the budgetary implications of this project will be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015;

27. *Recalls* paragraph 55 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73] stresses the importance of the continuation of effective project management to ensure timely implementation of the Umoja project, and requests the Secretary-General to revert, in the context of the fifth annual progress report, with a proposal for integrating Umoja support and maintenance into the operational structure of the Secretariat;

## IV

## International Public Sector Accounting Standards

*Recalling* section IV of its resolution 60/283, section V of its resolution 63/262, its resolutions 64/243, and 65/243 A of 24 December 2010, section II.B of its resolution 65/259, section I of its resolution 66/232 B of 21 June 2012, its resolution 66/246 and sections II and V of its resolution 66/247,

*Having considered* the fifth progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations[75] and the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed revisions to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations for the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards,[76] the second progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards[77] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[78]

1. *Takes note* of the fifth progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations[75] and the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed revisions to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations for the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards,[76] as well as the second progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;[77]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[78]

3. *Accepts* the second progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;[77]

4. *Approves* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;[77]

5. *Reaffirms* that the Umoja enterprise resource planning system will serve as the backbone for implementation by the United Nations of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, and urges increased collaboration between the International Public Sector Accounting Standards and Umoja teams;

6. *Expresses concern* that the delays in the implementation of the Umoja enterprise resource planning project pose a significant risk to the timely realization of the benefits of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[78] and notes with concern that slippage in the deployment of the Umoja enterprise resource planning

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[75] A/67/344.

[76] A/67/345.

[77] A/67/168.

[78] A/67/564.

system brought additional risks to the successful implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, as it gave rise to the need to adapt currently used software systems to the needs of the Standards;

8. *Concurs* with the views expressed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 4 of its report,[78] and urges the Secretary-General to concurrently pursue all the objectives of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards project, in particular the production of financial statements that are compliant with the Standards and the realization of all the expected benefits;

9. *Notes* that property management, in particular verification of assets, has remained an issue of concern for Member States, in this regard underlines that any mistakes or shortcomings in the accounting of property, plant and equipment represent serious risks to successful implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards in the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to address these risks and to keep Member States informed of the measures taken;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure correct opening balances in the preparation of financial statements that are compliant with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

11. *Notes* the progress made since the issuance of the fourth progress report,[79] and requests the Secretary-General to report on the status of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards implementation projects in the Secretariat and across the United Nations system;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to exercise strict oversight over the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards project to ensure prudent stewardship of project resources and to establish clear lines of reporting and effective mechanisms for the rapid resolution of issues on a day-to-day basis;

13. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the General Assembly is kept informed, on an annual basis, of the progress in implementing the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by 2014, including milestones and deliverables, outstanding activities, utilization of resources and the effectiveness of the activities undertaken by the local Standards implementation teams, as well as to ensure full realization of the benefits associated with the implementation of the Standards;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[78] on the implications of the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards for the work of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee and the General Assembly, as well as the comments and observations of the Board of Auditors on this issue, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an analysis of the estimated impact on the workload of these bodies resulting from the adoption of the Standards and to report findings and make recommendations on this issue no later than at the main part of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly;

15. *Adopts* the revised Financial Regulations of the United Nations, as set forth in the report of the Secretary-General,[80] with the exception of regulation 4.19;

16. *Takes note* of the revised Financial Rules of the United Nations, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General;[81]

17. *Decides* that the revised Financial Regulations shall take effect as from 1 July 2013;

18. *Also decides* that as a transitional provision, the proposed regulations relating to the preparation and reporting of financial statements shall not be implemented for the regular budget, trust funds and reserves and special accounts, other than peacekeeping accounts, until 1 January 2014;

## V

## Capital master plan

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, its resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005, section II of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, its resolutions 60/256 of 8 May 2006, 60/282 of 30 June 2006, 61/251 of 22 December 2006, 62/87 of 10 December 2007, 63/270 of 7 April 2009, 64/228 of 22 December 2009 and 65/269 of 4 April 2011 and section III of its resolution 66/258 of 9 April 2012 and its decisions 58/566 of 8 April 2004, 65/543 of 24 December 2010 and 66/555 of 24 December 2011,

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[79] A/66/379.

[80] A/67/345, annex I.

[81] Ibid., annex II.

*Having considered* the tenth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[82] the report of the Secretary-General on proposals for financing the associated costs required for 2013 from within the approved budget for the capital master plan,[83] the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2011,[84] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2011,[85] the relevant section of the report of the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012,[86] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[87] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth technical construction audit of the capital master plan,[88]

1. *Takes note* of the tenth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[82] the report of the Secretary-General on proposals for financing the associated costs required for 2013 from within the approved budget for the capital master plan,[83] the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2011,[84] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2011,[85] the relevant section of the report of the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012[86] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth technical construction audit of the capital master plan;[88]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2011;[84]

4. *Approves* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;[84]

5. *Reaffirms* paragraph 37 of its resolution 62/87 and paragraph 2 of its resolution 64/228, and requests the Secretary-General to complete the capital master plan as approved by the General Assembly in various resolutions;

6. *Reiterates* that accountability is a central pillar of effective and efficient management that requires attention and strong commitment at the highest level of the Secretariat, as defined in paragraph 8 of its resolution 64/259 of 29 March 2010;

7. *Notes with concern* the findings of the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the governance, risk management and control processes for the capital master plan, and urges the Secretary-General to make every effort to implement their recommendations as a matter of priority and to report thereon during the main part of the sixty-eighth session;

### A. Tenth annual progress report

*Financial management*

8. *Notes with deep concern* the drastic increase in the cost overrun of the project, which represents 21.3 per cent of the total consolidated budget, reiterates its request that the Secretary-General make every effort to

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[82] A/67/350.

[83] A/67/350/Add.1.

[84] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5*, Vol. V (A/67/5 (Vol. V)).

[85] A/67/319, sect. III.

[86] A/67/297 (Part I), sect. VI.A.

[87] A/67/548.

[88] A/67/330.

avoid budgetary increases through sound project management practices, including but not limited to those identified by the Board of Auditors, and to ensure that the capital master plan project is completed within the budget as approved in its resolution 61/251, and urges him to make robust efforts to contain the project's associated costs and the overall cost overruns as a matter of urgency;

9. *Urges* the Secretary-General to make every effort to complete the implementation of the capital master plan within the approved schedule, and underlines that further delays in implementation could result in additional costs and risks for the capital master plan;

10. *Underlines* that, as a matter of principle, any cost overruns in large-scale capital projects of the Organization should be met through efficiency measures, while maintaining the quality and scope of the projects;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 47 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] and stresses the need for timely and comprehensive reporting to the General Assembly when significant factors lead to changes in the assumptions and cost levels of the capital master plan;

12. *Also recalls* paragraphs 50 and 51 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] notes the finding of the Board of Auditors that there is no certainty in the final cost projections of the project, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to vigorously revisit the final cost projections and report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the eleventh annual progress report;

13. *Requests* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to request the Board of Auditors to scrutinize the final cost projections requested in paragraph 12 above and to submit a report to the General Assembly to be considered alongside the eleventh annual progress report;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] notes paragraph 14 of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[88] and in that respect regrets deficiencies in governance, risk management and control processes identified by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary actions to identify all potential areas of cost recovery, as referred to by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and to recover such costs where it is cost-effective to do so, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that measures are put in place to avoid recurrence of similar problems throughout the remaining phase of the project and to report to the General Assembly on progress thereon in the context of the eleventh annual progress report;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to guarantee a smooth financial closure of the project;

16. *Recalls* paragraph 62 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] approves the application of interest income and the working capital reserve fund in the amount of 71 million dollars for the requirements of the project up to 31 December 2013, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on the status of the remainder of the interest income and the working capital reserve;

### *Swing space and office space utilization*

17. *Recalls* paragraph 36 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] and expresses concern that the Secretary-General did not provide accurate information regarding space utilization both on and off the campus in New York, which could result in an overestimation of space needs and potential overexpenditure on off-campus office space;

18. *Notes* that the Secretariat intends to keep two swing space leases after the completion of the project, which will result in an additional burden on the regular budget;

19. *Recalls* paragraph 37 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] and requests the Secretary-General to enhance efforts to manage the costs pertaining to swing spaces with a view to optimizing the rental contracts and to report on concrete measures taken in this regard in the context of the eleventh annual progress report;

20. *Also recalls* paragraph 45 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] notes that the Secretariat Building can accommodate flexible workspace arrangements and that the Secretary-General is conducting a study of flexible workspace arrangements in the Secretariat that is projected to be

concluded in June 2013, and urges the Secretary-General to accelerate his review of flexible workspace arrangements in the Secretariat and to present his findings to the General Assembly at the main part of the sixty-eighth session;

*Donations and artwork*

21. *Stresses* the need to preserve the historical significance of the original locations for the display of the art, crafts and gifts donated over the years to the United Nations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make efforts to return such items to the original locations they occupied prior to the commencement of the capital master plan project;

22. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, where a change of location of the art, crafts and gifts is required, to seek and take into account the views of the donating parties on all available options prior to such changes;

*Accountability, governance and oversight*

23. *Takes note* of paragraph 35 of the tenth annual progress report of the Secretary-General,[82] and requests the Secretary-General to keep Member States informed of the recommendations and observations of the Advisory Board of the Capital Master Plan;

24. *Concurs* with the recommendation contained in paragraph 55 of the report of the Board of Auditors,[85] and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen governance over the capital master plan through the remaining phase of the project;

25. *Reaffirms* its resolution 62/269 of 20 June 2008, and requests the Secretary-General to comply fully with the relevant provisions contained therein;

*Other matters*

26. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to update the General Assembly through regular informal briefings, in addition to submitting annual progress reports, on all aspects of the implementation of the capital master plan project, including the current status, financial situation, significant activities carried out since the previous report and risk analysis information outlining any risks identified, actions to be taken to mitigate risks, status and trends, and to update the relevant information on its website on a regular basis;

27. *Recalls* paragraph 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] and requests the Secretary-General to provide briefings to the Fifth Committee at each resumed session, as well as quarterly briefings to the Advisory Committee, in addition to the submission of annual progress reports to the General Assembly on the implementation of the capital master plan;

28. *Also recalls* paragraph 24 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to report on the impact of the accelerated implementation strategy on the project's final costs in his eleventh annual progress report;

29. *Takes note* of paragraph 30 and recommendation 3 of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[88] and requests the Secretary-General to present, as soon as possible, but no later than the main part of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, updated information and options, as well as financial implications, on the renovation of the South Annex Building and the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Building;

30. *Recalls* paragraph 33 of its resolution 63/270, notes with concern the existing difficulties with regard to the availability of parking at the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the total number of parking spaces available to Member States will not diminish upon the completion of the capital master plan;

31. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the safety, security, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists at the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that concrete safeguards for the achievement of those objectives are in place and are part of the standard operating procedures throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to make provisions for appropriate health and wellness facilities and improved physical accessibility for persons with disabilities;

*Eleventh annual progress report*

33. *Takes note* of the progress made since the issuance of the ninth annual progress report;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report on the status of the project, the schedule, the projected completion cost, the status of contributions and the working capital reserve in his eleventh annual progress report, as well as to include therein the information requested in the present resolution;

35. *Recalls* paragraphs 28, 34 and 35 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[87] and requests the Secretary-General, as a matter of priority, to present a clear plan on lessons learned from the capital master plan and similar projects;

*Financing of the capital master plan project*

36. *Approves* the one-time cost reduction and financing proposals reflected in section XII of the tenth annual progress report of the Secretary-General,[82] excluding those proposals related to the North Lawn Building, the South Annex Building and the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Building and the deferral of the refurbishment of fixed furniture in conference room 4 of the Conference Building, and decides to revert to the issue of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Building, the South Annex Building and the refurbishment of fixed furniture in conference room 4 of the Conference Building in the context of the report requested in paragraph 29 above;

37. *Also approves* the extension of the approved commitment authority for 2012 into 2013;

38. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into additional commitments of up to 167,773,400 dollars for resources required for the capital master plan project, including its associated costs, through 2013;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report, in the context of the eleventh annual progress report, on the resource requirements for the project for 2014;

40. *Encourages* those Member States that have outstanding assessments to the capital master plan to pay those assessments;

### B. Associated costs

41. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to absorb the associated costs within the budget approved for the capital master plan;

42. *Notes* the associated costs projection for the year 2013 in the amount of 15,562,600 dollars, broken down as follows:

(*a*) Office of Central Support Services (2,389,800 dollars);

(*b*) Office of the Capital Master Plan (9,959,400 dollars);

(*c*) Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance activities at Headquarters (230,000 dollars);

(*d*) Department of Safety and Security (2,983,400 dollars);

43. *Approves* a net amount of up to 3,666,100 dollars for associated costs in 2013, after taking into account the estimated unutilized balance of 11,896,500 dollars for the period from 2008 to 2012;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the final expenditure for associated costs for the period from 2008 to 2013 only when the final expenditure is properly ascertained;

## VI

## Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational and substantive sessions of 2012

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational and substantive sessions of 2012[89] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[90]

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[89] A/67/503 and Add.1.

[90] A/67/577 and Add.1.

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[89]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[90] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Approves* the reclassification of one P-4 post to the P-5 level to carry out the duties of Political Affairs Officer in the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago, under executive direction and management;

4. *Decides* not to abolish one P-2 post under subprogramme 3, Macroeconomic policies and growth, and that the associated resources for the P-2 post shall be accommodated within the overall provision for section 21, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

## VII

### Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sessions

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sessions[91] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[92]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[91]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[92] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Takes note* of paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[92]

4. *Approves* an additional appropriation in the amount of 7,461,800 dollars (net), including 2,130,900 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 5,317,200 dollars under section 24, Human rights, and 13,700 dollars under section 29E, Administration, Geneva, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, to be charged to the contingency fund;

5. *Also approves* the establishment, as from 1 January 2013, of one new P-3 post under section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to absorb the additional requirements arising from the adoption of the present resolution;

## VIII

### Revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want"

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[93] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[94]

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[91] A/67/607.

[92] A/67/647.

[93] A/67/591.

[94] A/67/641.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[93]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[94] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Approves* an additional appropriation in the amount of 8,766,300 dollars under the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, including 1,793,800 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 3,483,500 dollars under section 9, Economic and social affairs, 1,405,700 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, 636,800 dollars under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, 819,600 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, 345,400 dollars under section 22, Economic and social development in Western Asia, 98,500 dollars under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, and 183,000 dollars under section 37, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to absorb the additional requirements;

## IX

## Financial implications relating to the administration of justice at the United Nations

*Recalling* its resolution 67/241 of 24 December 2012 on the administration of justice at the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to approve an additional amount of 1,793,900 dollars gross, 1,688,300 dollars net, before recosting, in the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, reflecting an increase of 1,645,400 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, 42,900 dollars under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, and 105,600 dollars under section 37, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

2. *Also decides* that the additional amount of 1,688,300 dollars net would represent a charge against the contingency fund for the biennium 2012–2013;

## X

## First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013

*Having considered* the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013[95] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[96]

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/248 A and B of 24 December 2011, 66/258 and 66/263,

1. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolutions 41/213, and 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and reaffirmed in subsequent resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General;[95]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[96] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that, whenever new proposals lead to requests for additional resources, including when activities are taken forward with commitment authority, efforts are made to meet the new requirements within existing resources;

5. *Decides* to increase the initial appropriation by 91,251,400 dollars, which includes unforeseen and extraordinary expenses and actual expenditure for recosting for inflation and exchange rates for 2012, but excludes adjustments to standard costs relating to payroll, common staff costs and vacancy rates in 2012;

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[95] A/67/592.

[96] A/67/639.

6. *Recalls* paragraph 27 of its resolution 66/246, in which it decided to defer consideration of post-related recosting for inflation and exchange rate projections, and decides to further defer the consideration of this matter, including inflation and exchange rate projections for 2013 and adjustments to standard costs relating to payroll, common staff costs and vacancy rates for the biennium 2012–2013, to the time of its consideration of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013, in order to ensure that appropriation is in line with actual post-related expenditure;

7. *Reaffirms* the need for a comprehensive and satisfactory solution to the problem of controlling the effects of inflation and currency fluctuation on the budget of the United Nations;

8. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, starting 1 January 2013, to utilize forward purchasing to protect the United Nations against exchange rate fluctuations, taking into account the findings presented in the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011[97] and keeping the transaction costs as low as possible;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that Member States have access to information on the cash situation of the Organization, updated on a monthly basis;

10. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that oral statements detailing resource requirements are presented to the General Assembly in a timely manner before the adoption of substantive resolutions in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly and to provide information on the full scope of additional resources needed;

11. *Takes note* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to achieve efficiencies while ensuring full and effective mandate implementation, and encourages him to continue those efforts;

12. *Approves* a net increase of 91,251,400 dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2012–2013 and a net decrease of 3,861,800 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the first performance report of the Secretary-General;

### XI

### Contingency fund

*Notes* that a balance of 3,007,400 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

## RESOLUTIONS 67/247 A to C

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/677, para. 39)

## 67/247. Programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013

### A

### REVISED BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2012–2013

*The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that, for the biennium 2012–2013, the amount of 5,152,299,600 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolution 66/248 A of 24 December 2011, shall be adjusted by 243,256,900 dollars, as follows:

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[97] A/66/578 and Corr.1.

| Section | | *Amount approved in resolution 66/248 A* | *Increase/ (decrease)* | *Revised appropriation* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *(United States dollars)* | |
| | Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination* | | | |
| 1. | Overall policymaking, direction and coordination | 105 133 800 | 3 437 900 | 108 571 700 |
| 2. | General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management | 616 654 500 | 19 736 300 | 636 390 800 |
| | **Total, part I** | **721 788 300** | **23 174 200** | **744 962 500** |
| | Part II. *Political affairs* | | | |
| 3. | Political affairs | 1 193 700 800 | 128 463 900 | 1 322 164 700 |
| 4. | Disarmament | 22 422 000 | 579 800 | 23 001 800 |
| 5. | Peacekeeping operations | 109 725 100 | 928 100 | 110 653 200 |
| 6. | Peaceful uses of outer space | 8 001 400 | (19 500) | 7 981 900 |
| | **Total, part II** | **1 333 849 300** | **129 952 300** | **1 463 801 600** |
| | Part III. *International justice and law* | | | |
| 7. | International Court of Justice | 47 766 400 | (198 700) | 47 567 700 |
| 8. | Legal affairs | 45 388 700 | 472 300 | 45 861 000 |
| | **Total, part III** | **93 155 100** | **273 600** | **93 428 700** |
| | Part IV. *International cooperation for development* | | | |
| 9. | Economic and social affairs | 148 979 300 | 5 424 800 | 154 404 100 |
| 10. | Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States | 7 264 900 | 83 700 | 7 348 600 |
| 11. | United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development | 12 587 700 | 158 900 | 12 746 600 |
| 12. | Trade and development | 136 524 600 | 6 431 700 | 142 956 300 |
| 13. | International Trade Centre | 41 337 700 | (1 195 900) | 40 141 800 |
| 14. | Environment | 13 925 500 | 411 700 | 14 337 200 |
| 15. | Human settlements | 20 631 500 | 714 100 | 21 345 600 |
| 16. | International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice | 40 902 200 | (104 700) | 40 797 500 |
| 17. | UN-Women | 14 482 300 | 194 400 | 14 676 700 |
| | **Total, part IV** | **436 635 700** | **12 118 700** | **448 754 400** |
| | Part V. *Regional cooperation for development* | | | |
| 18. | Economic and social development in Africa | 138 308 300 | 5 189 000 | 143 497 300 |
| 19. | Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific | 98 654 500 | 4 533 200 | 103 187 700 |
| 20. | Economic development in Europe | 65 247 200 | 3 359 100 | 68 606 300 |
| 21. | Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean | 110 256 000 | 4 970 300 | 115 226 300 |
| 22. | Economic and social development in Western Asia | 62 646 700 | 3 802 400 | 66 449 100 |
| 23. | Regular programme of technical cooperation | 57 779 600 | (103 600) | 57 676 000 |
| | **Total, part V** | **532 892 300** | **21 750 400** | **554 642 700** |
| | Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs* | | | |
| 24. | Human rights | 154 315 400 | 13 009 100 | 167 324 500 |
| 25. | International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees | 95 507 100 | (3 129 200) | 92 377 900 |

| *Section* | | *Amount approved in resolution 66/248 A* | *Increase/ (decrease)* | *Revised appropriation* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *(United States dollars)* | |
| 26. | Palestine refugees | 47 377 700 | 1 552 800 | 48 930 500 |
| 27. | Humanitarian assistance | 29 374 000 | 595 500 | 29 969 500 |
| | **Total, part VI** | **326 574 200** | **12 028 200** | **338 602 400** |
| | Part VII. *Public information* | | | |
| 28. | Public information | 179 092 100 | 3 068 300 | 182 160 400 |
| | **Total, part VII** | **179 092 100** | **3 068 300** | **182 160 400** |
| | Part VIII. *Common support services* | | | |
| 29A. | Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management | 14 867 800 | 220 200 | 15 088 000 |
| 29B. | Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts | 36 259 900 | 510 700 | 36 770 600 |
| 29C. | Office of Human Resources Management | 73 982 100 | 629 300 | 74 611 400 |
| 29D. | Office of Central Support Services | 180 178 300 | 1 076 900 | 181 255 200 |
| 29E. | Administration, Geneva | 149 645 900 | 3 957 300 | 153 603 200 |
| 29F. | Administration, Vienna | 39 863 500 | (589 500) | 39 274 000 |
| 29G. | Administration, Nairobi | 30 100 500 | 1 952 000 | 32 052 500 |
| 29H. | Office of Information and Communications Technology | 75 312 000 | 488 200 | 75 800 200 |
| | **Total, part VIII** | **600 210 000** | **8 245 100** | **608 455 100** |
| | Part IX. *Internal oversight* | | | |
| 31. | Internal oversight | 38 254 200 | 623 100 | 38 877 300 |
| | **Total, part IX** | **38 254 200** | **623 100** | **38 877 300** |
| | Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses* | | | |
| 32. | Jointly financed administrative activities | 10 762 400 | 135 100 | 10 897 500 |
| 33. | Special expenses | 120 456 700 | (15 400) | 120 441 300 |
| | **Total, part X** | **131 219 100** | **119 700** | **131 338 800** |
| | Part XI. *Capital expenditures* | | | |
| 34. | Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance | 64 886 900 | 164 700 | 65 051 600 |
| | **Total, part XI** | **64 886 900** | **164 700** | **65 051 600** |
| | Part XII. *Safety and security* | | | |
| 35. | Safety and security | 213 412 400 | 9 710 900 | 223 123 300 |
| | **Total, part XII** | **213 412 400** | **9 710 900** | **223 123 300** |
| | Part XIII. *Development Account* | | | |
| 36. | Development Account | 29 243 200 | – | 29 243 200 |
| | **Total, part XIII** | **29 243 200** | **–** | **29 243 200** |
| | Part XIV. *Staff assessment* | | | |
| 37. | Staff assessment | 451 086 800 | 22 027 700 | 473 114 500 |
| | **Total, part XIV** | **451 086 800** | **22 027 700** | **473 114 500** |
| | **Grand total** | **5 152 299 600** | **243 256 900** | **5 395 556 500** |

## B

### REVISED INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2012–2013

*The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that, for the biennium 2012–2013, the estimates of income of 507,751,200 United States dollars approved by it in its resolution 66/248 B of 24 December 2011, shall be increased by 3,992,700 dollars, as follows:

| *Income section* | *Amount approved in resolution 66/248 B* | *Increase/ (decrease)* | *Revised estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | *(United States dollars)* | |
| 1. Income from staff assessment | 455 366 000 | 22 056 700 | 477 422 700 |
| **Total, income section 1** | **455 366 000** | **22 056 700** | **477 422 700** |
| 2. General income | 52 500 600 | (15 720 100) | 36 780 500 |
| 3. Services to the public | (115 400) | (2 343 900) | (2 459 300) |
| **Total, income sections 2 and 3** | **52 385 200** | **(18 064 000)** | **34 321 200** |
| **Grand total** | **507 751 200** | **3 992 700** | **511 743 900** |

## C

### FINANCING OF THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2013

*The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that, for the year 2013:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 2,819,406,700 United States dollars and consisting of 2,576,149,800 dollars, being half of the appropriation initially approved for the biennium 2012–2013 in its resolution 66/248 A of 24 December 2011, and 243,256,900 dollars, being the increase approved in resolution A above, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[98] as follows:

(*a*) 8,128,600 dollars consisting of:

(i) 26,192,600 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in its resolution 66/248 B of 24 December 2011;

(ii) Offset by 18,064,000 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in resolution B above;

(*b*) 2,811,278,100 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 67/238 of 24 December 2012;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 262,996,100 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 227,683,000 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 66/248 B;

(*b*) 22,056,700 dollars, being the estimated increase in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(*c*) 13,256,400 dollars, being the increase in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2010–2011, compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolution 66/245 B of 24 December 2011.

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[98] ST/SGB/2003/7 and Amend.1.

## RESOLUTION 67/248

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/673, para. 8)

### 67/248. Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2014–2015

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit in off-budget years an outline of the proposed programme budget for the following biennium,

*Reaffirming also* section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990,

*Reaffirming further* rule 153 of its rules of procedure,

*Recalling* its resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003,

*Recognizing* that the budget outline should provide a greater level of predictability of resources required for the following biennium, while ensuring that such resources are adequate for the fulfilment of the objectives, programmes and activities of the Organization, as mandated by the relevant legislative bodies of the United Nations,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2014–2015[99] and the recommendations contained in the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[100]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[99]

2. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[100] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

4. *Expresses its full respect* for the authority and the prerogatives of the Secretary-General as the chief administrative officer of the Organization;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General not to take any measures that do not respect the prerogatives of the General Assembly;

6. *Reaffirms* that the budget outline should provide a greater level of predictability of resources required for the following biennium and promote greater involvement of Member States in the budgetary process, thereby facilitating the broadest possible agreement on the programme budget;

7. *Also reaffirms* that the proposed programme budget outline shall contain an indication of the following:

(*a*) A preliminary estimate of resources needed to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(*b*) Priorities, reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(*c*) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

(*d*) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources;

8. *Stresses* that the budget outline is a preliminary estimate of resources;

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[99] A/67/529 and Corr.1.

[100] A/67/625.

9. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, when preparing the budget, to carefully evaluate and consider the entire quantum of resources necessary to carry out the programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly and other organs;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General to prepare his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 on the basis of a preliminary estimate of 5,392,672,400 United States dollars at revised 2012–2013 rates;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when making proposals for savings in the programme budget, to ensure the fair, equitable and non-selective treatment of all budget sections;

12. *Decides* that the priorities for the biennium 2014–2015 shall be the following:

(*a*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*b*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the priorities outlined in paragraph 12 above when presenting the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015;

14. *Recognizes* the need for measures to improve the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, with a view to strengthening its effectiveness in dealing with political, economic and social issues;

15. *Recognizes*, furthermore, that efforts to achieve savings and the efficient utilization of resources constitute an ongoing process and should not adversely affect the full implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

16. *Notes* that the budget proposal will reflect the benefit of further reviews of possible obsolete activities, additional cost-effective measures and simplified procedures, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to rigorously pursue this in accordance with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[101] and established practices;

17. *Reiterates its request* contained in paragraph 15 of resolution 65/262 of 24 December 2010, and requests the Secretary-General to include a summary of initiatives aimed at improving cost-effectiveness as well as information on the resources actually or expected to be freed up by their implementation;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 proposals stemming from a comprehensive review of the staffing requirements for the Organization, to ensure that staffing reflects best practices and is appropriate to effectively implement mandates;

19. *Stresses* that the contingency fund should be used in strict accordance with the provisions of paragraph 9 of annex I to resolution 41/213 and paragraph 3 of section C of the annex to resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987;

20. *Decides* that the contingency fund shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimate, namely, at 40,445,043 dollars, that this amount shall be in addition to the overall level of the preliminary estimate, and that it shall be used in accordance with the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

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[101] ST/SGB/2000/8.

# VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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## RESOLUTION 67/88

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/464, para. 9)[1]

### 67/88. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 59/281 of 29 March 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that the Secretary-General make available to the United Nations membership a comprehensive report on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations,[2]

*Recalling also* that the Secretary-General, on 24 March 2005, transmitted to the President of the General Assembly a report of his Adviser concerning sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel,[3]

*Recalling further* its resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee that a group of legal experts be established to provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely that United Nations staff and experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized, without due process,[4]

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of United Nations officials and experts on mission towards the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Reaffirming* the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law,

*Reaffirming also* that the present resolution is without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the United Nations under international law,

*Reaffirming further* the obligation of United Nations officials and experts on mission to respect the national laws of the host State, as well as the right of the host State to exercise, where applicable, its criminal jurisdiction, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing operations of United Nations missions,

*Deeply concerned* by reports of criminal conduct, and conscious that such conduct, if not investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted, would create the negative impression that United Nations officials and experts on mission operate with impunity,

*Reaffirming* the need to ensure that all United Nations officials and experts on mission function in a manner that preserves the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations,

*Emphasizing* that crimes committed by such persons are unacceptable and have a detrimental effect on the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations, in particular with respect to the relations between the United Nations and the local population in the host country,

*Conscious* of the importance of protecting the rights of victims of criminal conduct, as well as of ensuring adequate protection for witnesses, and recalling the adoption of its resolution 62/214 of 21 December 2007 on the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Ukraine on behalf of the Bureau.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part one, chap. III, sect. D, para. 56.

[3] See A/59/710.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part two, chap. II, sect. N, para. 40 (*a*).

*Emphasizing* the need to enhance international cooperation to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

*Recalling* its resolution 61/29 of 4 December 2006, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

*Having considered* at its previous sessions the report of the Group of Legal Experts established by the Secretary-General pursuant to its resolution 59/300[5] and the reports of the Ad Hoc Committee,[6] as well as the note by the Secretariat[7] and the reports of the Secretary-General[8] on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/63 of 6 December 2007, 63/119 of 11 December 2008, 64/110 of 16 December 2009, 65/20 of 6 December 2010 and 66/93 of 9 December 2011,

*Recalling also* its decision that, bearing in mind its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects, taking into account the views of Member States and the information contained in the note by the Secretariat, shall be continued during its sixty-seventh session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee,

*Convinced* of the continuing need for the United Nations and its Member States to urgently take strong and effective steps to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission in the interest of justice,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[9]

2. *Strongly urges* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished and that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of such persons and the United Nations under international law, and in accordance with international human rights standards, including due process;

3. *Strongly urges* all States to consider establishing, to the extent that they have not yet done so, jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, at least where the conduct as defined in the law of the State establishing jurisdiction also constitutes a crime under the laws of the host State, and, further, urges States and appropriate international organizations to provide technical and other appropriate assistance in developing such legal measures to States requesting such support;

4. *Encourages* all States to cooperate with each other and with the United Nations in the exchange of information and in facilitating the conduct of investigations and, as appropriate, the prosecution of United Nations officials and experts on mission who are alleged to have committed crimes of a serious nature, in accordance with their national law and applicable United Nations rules and regulations, fully respecting due process rights, as well as to consider strengthening the capacities of their national authorities to investigate and prosecute such crimes;

5. *Also encourages* all States:

(*a*) To afford each other assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings in respect of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, including assistance in obtaining evidence at their disposal, in accordance with their national law or any treaties or other arrangements on extradition and mutual legal assistance that may exist between them;

(*b*) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of facilitating the possible use of information and material obtained from the United Nations for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated in their territory for the prosecution of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, bearing in mind due process considerations;

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[5] A/60/980.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/62/54); and ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/63/54).

[7] A/62/329.

[8] A/63/260 and Add.1, A/64/183 and Add.1, A/65/185 and A/66/174 and Add.1.

[9] A/67/213.

(*c*) In accordance with their national law, to provide effective protection for victims of, witnesses to and others who provide information in relation to crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission and to facilitate access of victims to victim assistance programmes, without prejudice to the rights of the alleged offender, including those relating to due process;

(*d*) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of responding adequately to requests by host States for support and assistance in order to enhance their capacity to conduct effective investigations in respect of crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

6. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure that requests to Member States seeking personnel to serve as experts on mission make States aware of the expectation that persons who serve in that capacity should meet high standards in their conduct and behaviour and be aware that certain conduct may amount to a crime for which they may be held accountable;

7. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to take such other practical measures as are within his authority to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through predeployment and in-mission induction training for United Nations officials and experts on mission;

8. *Decides* that, bearing in mind its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects,[5] taking into account the views of Member States and also noting the inputs by the Secretariat, shall be continued during its seventieth session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring credible allegations that reveal that a crime may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission to the attention of the States against whose nationals such allegations are made and to request from those States an indication of the status of their efforts to investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute crimes of a serious nature, as well as the types of appropriate assistance that States may wish to receive from the Secretariat for the purposes of such investigations and prosecutions;

10. *Urges* States to provide to the Secretary-General at the appropriate time information on their handling of the credible allegations brought to their attention by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 9 above;

11. *Requests* the United Nations, when its investigations into allegations suggest that crimes of a serious nature may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, to consider any appropriate measures that may facilitate the possible use of information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States, bearing in mind due process considerations;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations, when allegations against United Nations officials or experts on mission are determined by a United Nations administrative investigation to be unfounded, to take appropriate measures, in the interests of the Organization, to restore the credibility and the reputation of such officials and experts on mission;

13. *Urges* the United Nations to continue cooperating with States exercising jurisdiction in order to provide them, within the framework of the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing activities of the United Nations, with information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States;

14. *Emphasizes* that the United Nations, in accordance with the applicable rules of the Organization, should take no action that would retaliate against or intimidate United Nations officials and experts on mission who report allegations concerning crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

15. *Takes note with appreciation* of the information provided by Governments in response to its resolutions 62/63, 63/119, 64/110, 65/20 and 66/93, and urges Governments to continue taking the measures necessary for the implementation of those resolutions, including their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, as well as cooperation among States, and to provide specific details thereon, in particular with respect to paragraph 3 of the present resolution, in the information provided to the Secretary-General;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular with respect to paragraphs 3, 5, 8 and 9 above, as well as any practical problems in its implementation, on the basis of information received from Governments and the Secretariat;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report information on the number and types of credible allegations and any actions taken by the United Nations and its Member States regarding crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, including information on efforts made to ensure the completeness of incident reporting;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission".

## RESOLUTION 67/89

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/465, para. 10)[10]

### 67/89. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-fifth session

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

*Reaffirming its belief* that the progressive modernization and harmonization of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity, common interest and respect for the rule of law, to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to peace, stability and the well-being of all peoples,

*Having considered* the report of the Commission,[11]

*Reiterating its concern* that activities undertaken by other bodies in the field of international trade law without adequate coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law,

*Reaffirming* the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts, including among organizations formulating rules of international trade, and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law, and to continue, through its secretariat, to maintain close cooperation with other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law,

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[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/67/17).

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;[11]

2. *Commends* the Commission for the finalization and adoption of the Guide to Enactment of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Model Law on Public Procurement[12] and the recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under its Arbitration Rules as revised in 2010;[13]

3. *Takes note with interest* of the progress made by the Commission in its work in the areas of arbitration and conciliation, online dispute resolution, electronic commerce, insolvency law and security interests;[14]

4. *Notes* the discussions undertaken by the Commission as regards its possible future work in the areas of public procurement and related areas, including public-private partnerships, microfinance and international contract law, and endorses the Commission's agreement to hold one or more colloquiums on microfinance and related matters, possibly in different regions, as well as a colloquium to identify the scope of possible work and primary issues to be addressed in the area of public-private partnerships;[15]

5. *Notes with appreciation* the projects of the Commission aimed at promoting the uniform and effective application of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, done at New York on 10 June 1958,[16] including the preparation of a guide on the Convention;[17]

6. *Notes* the decision of the Commission to commend the use of the 2010 edition of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law Principles of International Commercial Contracts, as appropriate, for their intended purposes, and of Incoterms 2010, as appropriate, in international sales transactions;[18]

7. *Endorses* the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law and at promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field, and in this regard appeals to relevant international and regional organizations to coordinate their legal activities with those of the Commission, to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the significant progress made in the coordination and cooperation activities of the Commission in the field of security interests, in particular the publication of "UNCITRAL, Hague Conference and Unidroit texts on security interests", prepared with the contribution of the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference and the secretariat of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, and the ongoing preparation of a joint set of principles on effective secured transaction regimes in cooperation with the World Bank and outside experts;[19]

9. *Notes* the agreement of the Commission that a coordinated approach to the matter of the law applicable to the proprietary effects of assignments of receivables is in the interest of all States and its request to the Secretariat to cooperate closely with the European Commission with a view to ensuring a coordinated approach to the matter,[20] taking into account the approach followed in the United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade[21] and the *UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions*;[22]

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[12] Ibid., chap. III.

[13] Ibid., chap. IV and annex I.

[14] Ibid., chaps. V–IX.

[15] Ibid., chaps. X–XII.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

[17] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/67/17), chap. XIII.

[18] Ibid., chap. XIV.

[19] Ibid., chap. XVIII, paras. 165–168.

[20] Ibid., para. 168.

[21] Resolution 56/81, annex.

[22] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.V.12.

10. *Reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with technical cooperation and assistance in the field of international trade law reform and development, and in this connection:

(*a*) Welcomes the initiatives of the Commission towards expanding, through its secretariat, its technical cooperation and assistance programme, and in that respect encourages the Secretary-General to seek partnerships with State and non-State actors to increase awareness about the work of the Commission and facilitate the effective implementation of legal standards resulting from its work;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities and for providing assistance with legislative drafting in the field of international trade law, and draws the attention of the Secretary-General to the limited resources that are made available in this field;

(*c*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the technical cooperation and assistance activities to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, for the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular in developing countries;

(*d*) Reiterates its appeal to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the technical cooperation and assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission in the light of the relevance and importance of the work and programmes of the Commission for the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and for the implementation of the United Nations development agenda, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

11. *Takes note with interest* of the note by the Secretariat setting out a number of issues for consideration by the Commission in setting the parameters for a strategic plan for the Commission,[23] and endorses the Commission's agreement to consider and provide guidance on, inter alia, the strategic considerations at its forty-sixth session;[24]

12. *Calls upon* Member States, non-member States, observer organizations and the Secretariat to apply the rules of procedure and methods of work of the Commission, taking into account the summary of conclusions as reproduced in annex III to the report on the work of its forty-third session,[25] with a view to ensuring the high quality of the work of the Commission and international acceptability of its instruments, and in this regard recalls its previous resolutions related to this matter;

13. *Welcomes* the opening, on 10 January 2012, of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, in the Republic of Korea, as a novel yet important first step for the Commission in reaching out and providing technical assistance to developing countries in the region, notes with satisfaction expressions of interest from other States, including Kenya and Singapore, in hosting regional centres of the Commission and the request by the Commission to the Secretariat to further pursue administrative arrangements with the Governments of Kenya and Singapore for the establishment of such centres, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the establishment of regional centres, in particular, their funding and budgetary situation;[26]

14. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General, in order to enable renewal of the provision of that assistance and to increase expert representation from

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[23] A/CN.9/752 and Add.1.

[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/67/17), chap. XXI.

[25] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/65/17).

[26] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/67/17), chap. XIX.

developing countries at sessions of the Commission and its working groups, necessary to build local expertise and capacities in the field of international trade law in those countries to facilitate the development of international trade and the promotion of foreign investment;

15. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation of all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

16. *Endorses* the conviction of the Commission that the implementation and effective use of modern private law standards in international trade are essential for advancing good governance, sustained economic development and the eradication of poverty and hunger and that the promotion of the rule of law in commercial relations should be an integral part of the broader agenda of the United Nations to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, supported by the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General;

17. *Takes note with appreciation*, in this regard, of the rule of law briefing by the Rule of Law Unit, held at the forty-fifth session of the Commission,[27] which allowed the Commission to contribute its views to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the topic of the rule of law at the national and international levels, held on 24 September 2012;

18. *Notes* the actions taken by the Commission after the briefing on the rule of law, in particular the messages of the Commission to the high-level meeting addressed to States and the United Nations, including recommended steps that should contribute to building the local capacity of States to continually engage in commercial law reforms at the country level and in a coordinated fashion in the rule-formulating activities of regional and international bodies;[28]

19. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in conformity with resolutions of the General Assembly on documentation-related matters,[29] which, in particular, emphasize that any invitation to limit, where appropriate, the length of documents should not adversely affect either the quality of the presentation or the substance of the documents, to bear in mind the particular characteristics of the mandate and functions of the Commission in the progressive development and codification of international trade law when implementing page limits with respect to the documentation of the Commission;[30]

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue providing summary records of the meetings of the Commission, including committees of the whole established by the Commission for the duration of its annual session, relating to the formulation of normative texts, takes note of the Commission's confirmation that good-quality summary records remain the best available option for preserving complete and accurate *travaux préparatoires* of the Commission's work in the most user-friendly and reliable way, welcomes the Commission's willingness to consider at the same time modern solutions that might address existing problems with the issuance of summary records and add useful features in the use of the Commission's records, and endorses the agreement of the Commission to assess at its forty-seventh session, in 2014, the experience of using digital recordings and, on the basis of that assessment, take a decision regarding the possible replacement of summary records by digital recording;[31]

21. *Welcomes* the review by the Commission of the proposed biennial programme plan for subprogramme 5 (Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade) of programme 6 (Legal affairs) of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014–2015,[32] takes note that the Commission expressed concern that the resources allotted to the Secretariat under subprogramme 5 were insufficient for it to meet the increased demand from developing countries and countries with economies in transition for technical assistance

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[27] Ibid., chap. XX.

[28] Ibid., paras. 211–227.

[29] Resolutions 52/214, sect. B, 57/283 B, sect. III, and 58/250, sect. III.

[30] Resolutions 59/39, para. 9, and 65/21, para. 18; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/59/17), paras. 124–128.

[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/67/17), paras. 241–249.

[32] A/67/6 (Prog. 6).

with law reform in the field of commercial law, also takes note that the Commission urged the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure that the comparatively small amount of additional resources necessary to meet a demand so crucial to development are made available promptly,[33] and recalls paragraph 48 of its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011 regarding the rotation scheme of meetings between Vienna and New York;

22. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Commission over the lack of sufficient resources in its secretariat for responding to the growing need for the uniform interpretation of Commission texts, which is considered indispensable for their effective implementation, and also notes that the Commission encouraged the Secretariat to explore various means of addressing this concern, inter alia, by building partnerships with interested institutions and establishing within the Commission's secretariat a pillar concentrating on the promotion of ways and means of interpreting uniformly Commission texts, in particular by sustaining and expanding the system for the collection and dissemination of case law on Commission texts (the CLOUT system);[34]

23. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the use of texts emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to conventions, enacting model laws and encouraging the use of other relevant texts;

24. *Welcomes* the preparation of digests of case law relating to the texts of the Commission, notes with appreciation the continuing increase in the number of abstracts available through the CLOUT system, and welcomes the publication of the UNCITRAL Digest of Case Law on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, 2012 edition, and the UNCITRAL 2012 Digest of Case Law on the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, as well as the agreement of the Commission that a digest of case law on the Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency be prepared, subject to the availability of resources in the Secretariat.[35]

## RESOLUTION 67/90

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/465, para. 10)[36]

### 67/90. Recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law as revised in 2010

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with the purpose of furthering the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade in the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 31/98 of 15 December 1976 and 65/22 of 6 December 2010, in which it recommended the use of the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law,[37]

*Recognizing* the value of arbitration as a method of settling disputes that may arise in the context of international commercial relations,

*Noting* that the Arbitration Rules are recognized as a very successful text and are used in a wide variety of circumstances covering a broad range of disputes, including disputes between private commercial parties, investor-State disputes, State-to-State disputes and commercial disputes administered by arbitral institutions, in all parts of the world,

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[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/67/17), paras. 250 and 251.

[34] Ibid., para. 252.

[35] Ibid., para. 156.

[36] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/31/17), chap. V, sect. C; and ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/65/17), annex I.

*Recognizing* the value of the 1982 recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the Arbitration Rules as adopted in 1976,[38]

*Also recognizing* the need for issuing updated recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the Arbitration Rules as revised in 2010,

*Believing* that updated recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the Arbitration Rules as revised in 2010 will significantly enhance the efficiency of arbitration under the Rules,

*Noting* that the preparation of the 2012 recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the Arbitration Rules as revised in 2010 was the subject of due deliberation and consultations with Governments, arbitral institutions and interested bodies,

*Convinced* that the recommendations as adopted by the Commission at its forty-fifth session[39] are acceptable to arbitral institutions and other interested bodies in countries with different legal, social and economic systems and can significantly contribute to the establishment of a harmonized legal framework for a fair and efficient settlement of international commercial disputes and to the development of harmonious international economic relations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for having formulated and adopted the recommendations to assist arbitral institutions and other interested bodies with regard to arbitration under the Arbitration Rules as revised in 2010;[39]

2. *Recommends* the use of the recommendations in the settlement of disputes arising in the context of international commercial relations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the recommendations broadly to Governments, with a call for the recommendations to be made available to arbitral institutions and other interested bodies, so that the recommendations become widely known and available;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to publish the recommendations, including electronically, and to make all efforts to ensure that they become generally known and available.

## RESOLUTION 67/91

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/466, para. 7)[40]

### 67/91. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, in which it established the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Reaffirming* that the Programme of Assistance is a core activity of the United Nations and that it has provided the foundation for the efforts of the United Nations to promote a better knowledge of international law for nearly half a century,

*Reaffirming also* that the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities creates new challenges for the Programme of Assistance,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Programme of Assistance effectively reaching its beneficiaries, including with regard to languages, while bearing in mind limitations on available resources,

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[38] Ibid., *Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/37/17), annex I.

[39] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/67/17), annex I.

[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Ghana on behalf of the Bureau.

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance,[41] and the views of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, which are contained in the report,

*Noting with concern* that the activities of the Programme of Assistance, in particular the organization of the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law on a regular basis and the further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, cannot be sustained with the resources available under the current programme budget, notwithstanding its resolutions 64/113 of 16 December 2009, 65/25 of 6 December 2010 and 66/97 of 9 December 2011,

*Considering* that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

*Convinced* that States, international and regional organizations, universities and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme of Assistance and to increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

*Reaffirming* that in the conduct of the Programme of Assistance it would be desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international and regional organizations, universities, institutions and others,

*Reaffirming also* the hope that, in appointing highly qualified lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programmes in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

1. *Reiterates its approval* of the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session,[42] in particular those designed to strengthen and revitalize the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law in response to the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out in 2013 the activities specified in his reports,[43] in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations referred to above, including the provision of:

(*a*) A number of fellowships, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme of Assistance and to be awarded to qualified candidates from developing countries, to attend the International Law Fellowship Programme in The Hague in 2013;

(*b*) A number of fellowships, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme of Assistance and to be awarded to qualified candidates from developing countries, to attend United Nations Regional Courses in International Law in 2013;

and to finance the above activities from provisions in the regular budget as well as, when necessary, from voluntary financial contributions for these fellowships, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 21 to 23 below;

3. *Also authorizes* the Secretary-General to award a minimum of one scholarship in 2013 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of voluntary contributions made for this fellowship, and in this regard calls upon States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, donor agencies, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make voluntary contributions specifically for this fellowship;

4. *Further authorizes* the Secretary-General to continue and further develop the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law as a major contribution to the teaching and dissemination of international

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[41] A/67/518.

[42] A/66/505.

[43] A/66/505 and A/67/518.

law around the world and to continue to finance this activity from provisions in the regular budget as well as, when necessary, from voluntary financial contributions, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 21 and 22 below;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities conducted under the Programme of Assistance and, in particular, for the efforts to strengthen, expand and enhance the international law training and dissemination activities within the framework of the Programme of Assistance in 2012;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider admitting, for participation in the various components of the Programme of Assistance, candidates from countries willing to bear the entire cost of such participation;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide to the programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 the resources necessary for the Programme of Assistance to ensure the continued effectiveness and further development of the Programme, in particular the organization of United Nations Regional Courses in International Law on a regular basis and the viability of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations legal publications prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, and requests their continued publication in accordance with their mandates in various formats, including hard copy publications, which are essential for developing countries;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the issuance of the *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the Permanent Court of International Justice* and the *United Nations Legislative Series: Materials on the responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts*, as well as the creation of the related websites;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to issue the next volume of the *United Nations Legislative Series* containing materials on the responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations legal publications, commends, in particular, the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs for its desktop publishing initiative, which has greatly enhanced the timely issuance of its legal publications and has made possible the preparation of legal training materials, and requests that the necessary materials be made available to ensure the continuation of this successful initiative in 2013;

12. *Encourages* the Office of Legal Affairs to continue to maintain and expand its websites listed in annex II to the report of the Secretary-General[41] as an invaluable tool for the dissemination of international law materials as well as for advanced legal research;

13. *Encourages* the use of interns and research assistants for the preparation of materials for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

14. *Commends* the Codification Division for the cost-saving measures undertaken with regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme to maintain the number of fellowships available for this comprehensive international law training programme;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to The Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme of Assistance, which has enabled candidates under the International Law Fellowship Programme to attend and participate in the Fellowship Programme in conjunction with courses at the Academy;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of The Hague Academy to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Codification Division to revitalize and conduct United Nations Regional Courses in International Law as an important training activity;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to Ethiopia and Thailand for hosting United Nations Regional Courses in International Law in 2012 and to Ethiopia for offering to host the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa in 2013, subject to adequate funding from the overall resources referred to in paragraph 2 above;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* to the African Union for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa, which has enabled participants to attend and participate in the Regional Course and the lectures at the African Union;

20. *Takes note* of the establishment of the African Institute of International Law, dedicated to offering higher learning and research in international law needed for the development of Africa and encourages the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs to cooperate with the Institute in the implementation of the relevant activities under the Programme of Assistance;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

22. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions, inter alia, for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

23. *Urges*, in particular, all Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law organized by the Codification Division as an important complement to the International Law Fellowship Programme, thus alleviating the burden on prospective host countries and making it possible to conduct the Regional Courses on a regular basis;

24. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made voluntary contributions to support the Programme of Assistance;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2013 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme of Assistance in subsequent years;

26. *Decides* to consider the viability of voluntary contributions as a sustainable method for funding the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law and the need to provide a more reliable funding method, taking into account the recommendation of the Advisory Committee at its forty-eighth session;[44]

27. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

## RESOLUTION 67/92

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/467, para. 8)[45]

### 67/92. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-fourth session,[46]

*Emphasizing* the importance of furthering the progressive development and codification of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[47]

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[44] A/67/518, para. 47.

[45] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Peru on behalf of the Bureau.

[46] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/67/10).

[47] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

*Recognizing* the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to enhance further their contribution to the progressive development and codification of international law,

*Recalling* the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

*Recalling also* the role of Member States in submitting proposals for new topics for the consideration of the International Law Commission, and noting in this regard the recommendation of the Commission that such proposals be accompanied by a statement of reasons,

*Reaffirming* the importance for the successful work of the International Law Commission of the information provided by Member States concerning their views and practice,

*Recognizing* the importance of the work of the special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission,

*Welcoming* the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

*Acknowledging* the importance of facilitating the timely publication of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* and of eliminating the backlog,

*Stressing* the usefulness of focusing and structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report and for discussions on specific topics,

*Wishing* to enhance further, in the context of the revitalization of the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two bodies,

*Welcoming* initiatives to hold interactive debates, panel discussions and question time in the Sixth Committee, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-fourth session;[46]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its sixty-fourth session, in particular for the completion of the first reading of the draft articles on the expulsion of aliens;

3. *Recommends* that the International Law Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether submitted in writing or expressed orally in debates in the Sixth Committee;

4. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects of the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report, regarding:

(*a*) Immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction;

(*b*) Formation and evidence of customary international law;

5. *Decides* that the consideration of chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-third session,[48] dealing with the topic "Reservations to treaties", shall be continued at the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, during the consideration of the report of the Commission on the work of its sixty-fifth session;

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[48] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/66/10); and ibid., addendum (A/66/10/Add.1).

6. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their comments and observations by 1 January 2014 on the draft articles and commentaries on the topic "Expulsion of aliens" adopted on first reading by the Commission at its sixty-fourth session;[49]

7. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the International Law Commission to include the topics "Provisional application of treaties" and "Formation and evidence of customary international law" in its programme of work,[50] and encourages the Commission to continue the examination of the topics that are in its long-term programme of work;[51]

8. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue to give priority to the topics "Immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction" and "The obligation to extradite or prosecute (*aut dedere aut judicare*)";

9. *Takes note* of the oral report by the Secretariat on assistance to special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission and of paragraph 280 of the report of the Commission,[46] and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to identify concrete options for support for the work of special rapporteurs, additional to those provided under General Assembly resolution 56/272 of 27 March 2002;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the International Law Commission to improve its methods of work,[52] and encourages the Commission to continue this practice;

11. *Takes note* of the tentative work programme of the International Law Commission for the remainder of the quinquennium, as reflected in paragraph 273 of its report;[46]

12. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of the recommendation contained in paragraph 388 of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-third session[53] during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

13. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue taking measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity and to consider making proposals to Member States to that end;

14. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue taking cost-saving measures at its future sessions, without prejudice to the efficiency and effectiveness of its work;

15. *Takes note* of paragraph 290 of the report of the International Law Commission,[46] and decides that the next session of the Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 6 May to 7 June and from 8 July to 9 August 2013;

16. *Stresses* the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee at the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the continued practice of informal consultations in the form of discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and the members of the Commission attending the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly;

17. *Encourages* delegations, during the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, to adhere as far as possible to the structured work programme agreed to by the Sixth Committee and to consider presenting concise and focused statements;

18. *Encourages* Member States to consider being represented at the level of legal adviser during the first week in which the report of the International Law Commission is discussed in the Sixth Committee (International Law Week) to enable high-level discussions on issues of international law;

19. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

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[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/67/10), para. 43.

[50] Ibid., paras. 267 and 268.

[51] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/66/10), paras. 365–369.

[52] Ibid., paras. 370–388.

[53] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/66/10).

20. *Takes note* of paragraphs 291 to 296 of the report of the International Law Commission[46] with regard to cooperation and interaction with other bodies, and encourages the Commission to continue the implementation of articles 16 (*e*), 25 and 26 of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

21. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

22. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the indispensable role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in providing assistance to the International Law Commission, including in the preparation of memorandums and studies on topics on the agenda of the Commission;

23. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the documentation and summary records of the International Law Commission;[54]

24. *Welcomes* the institutionalization of the practice of the Secretariat to include the provisional summary records on the website relating to the work of the International Law Commission;

25. *Stresses* the need to expedite the preparation of the summary records of the International Law Commission;

26. *Endorses* the recommendation contained in paragraph 283 of the report of the International Law Commission;[46]

27. *Takes note* of paragraph 284 of the report of the International Law Commission,[46] stresses the unique value of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure its timely publication in all official languages;

28. *Also takes note* of paragraph 287 of the report of the International Law Commission,[46] expresses its appreciation to Governments that have made voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund on the Backlog relating to the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and encourages further contributions to the Trust Fund;

29. *Welcomes* the continuous efforts of the Codification Division to maintain and improve the website relating to the work of the International Law Commission;[55]

30. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants representing the principal legal systems of the world, including in particular those from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, as well as delegates to the Sixth Committee, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue considering ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

32. *Underlines the importance* of the records and topical summary of the debate in the Sixth Committee for the deliberations of the International Law Commission and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to forward to the Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

33. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session, chapter III containing the specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

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[54] See resolutions 32/151, para. 10, and 37/111, para. 5, and all subsequent resolutions on the annual reports of the International Law Commission to the General Assembly.

[55] www.un.org/law/ilc.

34. *Also requests* the Secretariat to make the complete report of the International Law Commission available as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the Commission for the consideration of Member States with due anticipation and no later than the prescribed time limit for reports in the General Assembly;

35. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue considering ways in which specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission could be framed so as to help Governments to have a better appreciation of the issues on which responses are required;

36. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly commence on 28 October 2013.

## RESOLUTION 67/93

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/468, para. 8)[56]

### 67/93. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its biennial resolutions on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, including its resolution 65/29 of 6 December 2010,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[57]

*Reaffirming* the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflicts and the need to respect and ensure respect for those rules in all circumstances within the scope of the relevant international instruments, pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

*Stressing* the need to consolidate the existing body of international humanitarian law through its universal acceptance and the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of such law at the national level, and expressing concern about all violations of the Geneva Conventions of 1949[58] and the Additional Protocols,[59]

*Calling upon* Member States to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law as widely as possible, and calling upon all parties to armed conflict to apply international humanitarian law,

*Noting with satisfaction* the increasing number of national commissions and other bodies involved in advising authorities at the national level on the implementation, dissemination and development of international humanitarian law,

*Noting with appreciation* the meetings of representatives of those bodies organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross, together with relevant partners such as national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, to facilitate the sharing of concrete experience and the exchange of views on their roles and on the challenges they face,

*Stressing* the possibility of making use of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in relation to an armed conflict, pursuant to article 90 of Protocol I[60] to the Geneva Conventions,

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[56] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[57] A/67/182 and Add.1.

[58] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[59] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513, and vol. 2404, No. 43425.

[60] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

*Stressing also* the possibility for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to facilitate, through its good offices, the restoration of an attitude of respect for the Geneva Conventions and Protocol I,

*Taking note* of the fact that, in paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the Security Council noted the range of existing methods used, on a case-by-case basis, for gathering information on alleged violations of applicable international law relating to the protection of civilians, underlined the importance in that regard of receiving information that is timely, objective, accurate and reliable, and considered the possibility, to that end, of using the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission established by article 90 of Protocol I,

*Mindful* of the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in offering protection to the victims of armed conflicts,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols,

*Noting* the special responsibilities of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their respective States in the humanitarian field, to cooperate with and assist their Governments in the promotion, dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law,

*Recalling* the undertakings of the Thirty-first International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 28 November to 1 December 2011, in which the Conference reaffirmed the need to reinforce the implementation of and respect for international humanitarian law,

*Welcoming* the launch of the initiative by Switzerland, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to facilitate a process aimed at exploring and identifying concrete ways and means to strengthen the application of international humanitarian law, including ensuring the effectiveness of mechanisms of compliance and reinforcing dialogue on issues of international humanitarian law,

*Noting* the serious concern expressed by States regarding the humanitarian impact caused by cluster munitions, and noting the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions[61] on 1 August 2010,

*Welcoming* the significant debate generated by the publication in 2005 of the study by the International Committee of the Red Cross on customary international humanitarian law and recent initiatives by the Committee, including the online launch of the updated study, as well as the growing number of translations into other languages of parts of the study, and looking forward to further constructive discussion on the subject,

*Acknowledging* the fact that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[62] covers the most serious crimes of international concern under international humanitarian law and that the Rome Statute, while recalling that it is the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction over those responsible for such crimes, shows the determination of the international community to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes and thus to contribute to their prevention,

*Noting* the amendments to article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, relating to war crimes under the Rome Statute, adopted at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, held in Kampala, on 10 June 2010,

*Acknowledging* the usefulness of discussing in the General Assembly the status of instruments of international humanitarian law relevant to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,

1. *Welcomes* the universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[58] and notes the trend towards a similarly wide acceptance of the two Additional Protocols of 1977;[63]

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Geneva Conventions that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Additional Protocols[59] at the earliest possible date;

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[61] A/C.1/63/5, enclosure, part II.

[62] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[63] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

3. *Calls upon* all States that are already parties to Protocol I,[60] or those States not parties, on becoming parties to Protocol I, to make the declaration provided for under article 90 of that Protocol and to consider making use, where appropriate, of the services of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in accordance with the provisions of article 90 of Protocol I;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the two Protocols thereto[64] and to other relevant treaties on international humanitarian law relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict;

5. *Calls upon* States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;[65]

6. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions to ensure their wide dissemination and full implementation;

7. *Affirms* the necessity of making the implementation of international humanitarian law more effective, and supports its further strengthening and development;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption at the Thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 November 2007, of resolution 3 entitled "Reaffirmation and implementation of international humanitarian law: preserving human life and dignity in armed conflict", in which the Conference, inter alia, reiterated the obligation of States to take national measures to implement international humanitarian law, including training the armed forces and making this law known among the general public, as well as adopting legislation to punish war crimes in accordance with their international obligations;

9. *Also notes with appreciation* the adoption at the Thirty-first International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of resolution 1 entitled "Strengthening legal protection for victims of armed conflicts", in which the Conference, inter alia, stressed that greater compliance with international humanitarian law is an indispensable prerequisite for improving the situation of victims of armed conflict and reaffirmed the obligation of all States and all parties to armed conflict to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law in all circumstances;

10. *Recognizes*, taking into account questions raised by States during the preparation for the Thirty-first International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and during the debates at the Conference, the importance of exploring ways to enhance and ensure the effectiveness of mechanisms of compliance with international humanitarian law, with a view to strengthening legal protection for all victims of armed conflict, and in this regard welcomes the launch of the initiative by Switzerland, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to facilitate a process in this regard;

11. *Welcomes* the activities of the Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law of the International Committee of the Red Cross in supporting efforts made by Member States to take legislative and administrative action to implement international humanitarian law and in promoting the exchange of information on those efforts between Governments, and reminds Member States of the availability of the manual on domestic implementation of international humanitarian law;

12. *Also welcomes* the increasing number of national commissions or committees for the implementation of international humanitarian law and their work in promoting the incorporation of treaties on international humanitarian law into national law and disseminating the rules of international humanitarian law;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the status of the Additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

14. *Encourages* Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross, in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, to focus on new developments and activities during the reporting period;

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[64] Ibid., vol. 249, No. 3511, and vol. 2253, No. 3511.

[65] Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

15. *Encourages* Member States to explore ways of facilitating the submission of information for future reports of the Secretary-General and, in this context, to consider the convenience of using a questionnaire to be drafted by Member States, with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross and, as appropriate, in consultation with the Secretariat, for submission to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts".

## RESOLUTION 67/94

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/469, para. 7)[66]

### 67/94. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[67]

*Conscious* of the need to develop and strengthen friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Convinced* that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations is a basic prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Alarmed* by the new and recurring acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, which endanger or take innocent lives and seriously impede the normal work of such representatives and officials,

*Expressing sympathy* for the victims of such illegal acts,

*Concerned* at the failure to respect the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

*Recalling* that, without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State,

*Recalling also* that diplomatic and consular premises must not be used in any manner incompatible with the functions of diplomatic and consular missions,

*Emphasizing* the duty of States to take all appropriate measures, as required by international law, in a timely manner, for the protection of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, including measures of a preventive nature, and to bring offenders to justice,

*Welcoming* measures already taken by States to this end in conformity with their international obligations,

*Convinced* that the role of the United Nations, which includes the reporting procedures established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/168 of 15 December 1980 and further elaborated in subsequent Assembly resolutions, is important in promoting efforts to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[67]

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[66] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[67] A/67/126 and Add.1.

2. *Strongly condemns* acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as against missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, and emphasizes that such acts can never be justified;

3. *Urges* States to strictly observe, implement and enforce the applicable principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations, including during a period of armed conflict, and, in particular, to ensure, in conformity with their international obligations, the protection, security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above officially present in territories under their jurisdiction, including practical measures to prevent and prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of such missions, representatives and officials;

4. *Also urges* States to take all appropriate measures at the national and international levels to prevent any acts of violence against the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, including during a period of armed conflict, and to ensure, with the participation of the United Nations where appropriate, that such acts are fully investigated with a view to bringing offenders to justice;

5. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely through, inter alia, contacts between the diplomatic and consular missions and the receiving State with regard to practical measures designed to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, including measures of a preventive nature, and with regard to the timely exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations thereof;

6. *Urges* States to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, at the national and international levels, to prevent any abuse of diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, in particular serious abuses, including those involving acts of violence;

7. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely with the State in whose territory abuses of diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may have occurred, including by exchanging information and providing assistance to its juridical authorities in order to bring offenders to justice;

8. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the instruments relevant to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives;

9. *Calls upon* States, in cases where a dispute arises in connection with a violation of their international obligations concerning the protection of the missions or the security of the representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, to make use of the means available for peaceful settlement of disputes, including the good offices of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General, when he deems it appropriate, to offer his good offices to the States directly concerned;

10. *Urges*:

(*a*) All States to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General,[68] serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

(*b*) The State in which the violation took place — and, to the extent possible, the State where the alleged offender is present — to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General, on measures taken to bring the offender to justice and eventually to communicate, in accordance with its laws, the final outcome of the proceedings against the offender, and to report on measures adopted with a view to preventing a repetition of such violations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To send, without delay, a circular note to all States reminding them of the request contained in paragraph 10 above;

(*b*) To circulate to all States, upon receipt, the reports received by him pursuant to paragraph 10 above, unless the reporting State requests otherwise;

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[68] A/42/485, annex.

(*c*) To draw the attention, when appropriate, of the States directly concerned to the reporting procedures provided for in paragraph 10 above, when a serious violation has been reported pursuant to paragraph 10 (*a*) above;

(*d*) To address reminders to States where such violations have occurred if reports pursuant to paragraph 10 (*a*) above or follow-up reports pursuant to paragraph 10 (*b*) above have not been made within a reasonable period of time;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, in the circular note referred to in paragraph 11 (*a*) above, to inform him of their views with respect to any measures needed or already taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report containing:

(*a*) Information on the state of ratification of and accessions to the instruments referred to in paragraph 8 above;

(*b*) A summary of the reports received and views expressed pursuant to paragraphs 10 and 12 above;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly any views he may wish to express on the matters referred to in paragraph 13 above;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

## RESOLUTION 67/95

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/470, para. 12)[69]

### 67/95. Thirtieth anniversary of the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes

*The General Assembly*,

*Acknowledging* that 15 November 2012 will mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/10 of 15 November 1982, which was adopted without a vote,

*Recalling* that the Manila Declaration was negotiated on the initiative of Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone and Tunisia and on the basis of a text prepared by the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization,

*Recalling also* that the Manila Declaration was the first instrument adopted by the General Assembly as a result of the work of the Special Committee,

*Recalling further* that the Manila Declaration is a landmark declaration on the peaceful settlement of international disputes, building upon the Charter of the United Nations, in particular its Article 33,

*Recalling* that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations,

1. *Recognizes* the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes as a concrete accomplishment of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and welcomes the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration;

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[69] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of the Philippines on behalf of the Bureau.

2. *Reiterates its call* to all States to observe and promote in good faith the Manila Declaration in the peaceful settlement of their international disputes;

3. *Encourages* all Member States to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Manila Declaration through appropriate activities.

## RESOLUTION 67/96

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/470, para. 12)[70]

### 67/96. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

*Recalling also* its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

*Recalling further* its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

*Taking note* of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council,[71]

*Recalling* the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

*Recalling also* its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

*Concerned* about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying-out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Council,

*Recalling* the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

*Recalling also* that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

*Mindful* of the adoption of the revised working papers on the working methods of the Special Committee,[72]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "*Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*",[73]

*Taking note also* of paragraphs 106 to 110, 176 and 177 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[74]

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[70] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Egypt on behalf of the Bureau.

[71] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/63/47).

[72] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/61/33), para. 72.

[73] A/67/189.

[74] Resolution 60/1.

*Mindful* of the decision of the Special Committee in which it expressed its readiness to engage, as appropriate, in the implementation of any decisions that might be taken at the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concerned the Charter and any amendments thereto,[75]

*Recalling* the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999, 55/157 of 12 December 2000, 56/87 of 12 December 2001, 57/25 of 19 November 2002, 58/80 of 9 December 2003 and 59/45 of 2 December 2004,

*Recalling also* its resolution 64/115 of 16 December 2009 and the document entitled "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations" annexed thereto,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2012,[76]

*Noting with appreciation* the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[76]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 19 to 27 February 2013;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2013, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2013;

(*b*) To continue to consider, in an appropriate, substantive manner and framework, the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter based on all of the related reports of the Secretary-General[77] and the proposals submitted on the question;

(*c*) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;

(*d*) To consider, as appropriate, any proposal referred to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the decisions of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concern the Charter and any amendments thereto;

(*e*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Invites* the Special Committee, at its session in 2013, to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

5. *Notes* the readiness of the Special Committee to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

7. *Recognizes* the important role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and the value of its work, as well as the importance of having recourse to the Court in the peaceful settlement of disputes, takes note that, consistent with Article 96 of the Charter, the Court's advisory jurisdiction may be requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council or other authorized organs of the

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[75] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/60/33), para. 77.

[76] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/67/33).

[77] A/48/573-S/26705, A/49/356, A/50/60-S/1995/1, A/50/361, A/50/423, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and Add.1, A/55/295 and Add.1, A/56/303, A/57/165 and Add.1, A/58/346, A/59/334, A/60/320, A/61/304, A/62/206 and Corr.1, A/63/224, A/64/225, A/65/217, A/66/213 and A/67/190.

United Nations and the specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to distribute, in due course, the advisory opinions requested by the principal organs of the United Nations as official documents of the United Nations;

8. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of studies for the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, including the increased use of the internship programme of the United Nations and further expanded cooperation with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by Member States to the Trust Fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory*, as well as the Trust Fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*;

10. *Reiterates its call for* voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory* so as to further support the Secretariat in carrying out the effective elimination of that backlog; voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*; and the sponsoring, on a voluntary basis and with no cost to the United Nations, of associate experts to assist in the updating of the two publications;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions;

12. *Notes with concern* that the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the *Repertory* has not been eliminated, and calls upon the Secretary-General to address that issue effectively and on a priority basis, while commending the Secretary-General for some progress made in reducing the backlog;

13. *Reiterates* the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, and, with regard to the *Repertoire*, calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report of 18 September 1952;[78]

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-eighth session, a report on both the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to brief the Special Committee at its next session on the information referred to in paragraph 12 of his report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;[79]

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization", a report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

## RESOLUTION 67/97

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/471, para. 7)[80]

### 67/97. The rule of law at the national and international levels

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 66/102 of 9 December 2011,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

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[78] A/2170.

[79] A/67/190.

[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Liechtenstein on behalf of the Bureau.

*Reaffirming* that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels and its solemn commitment to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which, together with the principles of justice, is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

*Convinced* that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for the realization of sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and acknowledging that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with the Charter and international law, against transnational threats,

*Reaffirming* the duty of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with its Statute,

*Convinced* that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and its Member States,

*Recalling* paragraph 134 (*e*) of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[81]

1. *Recalls* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, held during the high-level segment of its sixty-seventh session, and the declaration adopted at that meeting;[82]

2. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities;[83]

3. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification, and reaffirms further that States shall abide by all their obligations under international law;

4. *Reaffirms also* the imperative of upholding and promoting the rule of law at the international level in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Welcomes* the dialogue initiated by the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General with Member States on the topic "Promoting the rule of law at the international level", and calls for the continuation of this dialogue with a view to fostering the rule of law at the international level;

6. *Stresses* the importance of adherence to the rule of law at the national level and the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among the United Nations entities and with donors and recipients, and reiterates its call for greater evaluation of the effectiveness of such activities, including possible measures to improve the effectiveness of those capacity-building activities;

8. *Calls*, in this context, for dialogue to be enhanced among all stakeholders with a view to placing national perspectives at the centre of rule of law assistance in order to strengthen national ownership;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to systematically address, as appropriate, aspects of the rule of law in relevant activities, including the participation of women in rule of law-related activities, recognizing the importance of the rule of law to virtually all areas of United Nations engagement;

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[81] Resolution 60/1.

[82] Resolution 67/1.

[83] A/67/290.

10. *Expresses full support* for the overall coordination and coherence role of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group within the United Nations system within existing mandates, supported by the Rule of Law Unit, under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, in a timely manner, his next annual report on United Nations rule of law activities, in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution 63/128 of 11 December 2008;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of restoring confidence in the rule of law as a key element of transitional justice;

13. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to accord high priority to rule of law activities;

14. *Invites* the International Court of Justice, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the International Law Commission to continue to comment, in their respective reports to the General Assembly, on their current roles in promoting the rule of law;

15. *Invites* the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit to continue to interact with Member States on a regular basis, in particular in informal briefings;

16. *Stresses* the need to provide the Rule of Law Unit with the necessary funding and staff in order to enable it to carry out its tasks in an effective and sustainable manner, and urges the Secretary-General and Member States to continue to support the functioning of the Unit;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels", and invites Member States to focus their comments in the upcoming Sixth Committee debates on the subtopics "The rule of law and the peaceful settlement of international disputes" (sixty-eighth session) and "Sharing States' national practices in strengthening the rule of law through access to justice" (sixty-ninth session).

## RESOLUTION 67/98

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/472, para. 9)[84]

### 67/98. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to an international order based on the rule of law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/117 of 16 December 2009, 65/33 of 6 December 2010 and 66/103 of 9 December 2011,

*Taking into account* the comments and observations of Governments and observers and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-fourth, sixty-fifth, sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions of the General Assembly on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,[85]

*Recognizing* the diversity of views expressed by States and the need for further consideration towards a better understanding of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,

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[84] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo on behalf of the Bureau.

[85] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Sixth Committee*, 12th, 13th and 25th meetings (A/C.6/64/SR.12, 13 and 25), and corrigendum; ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Sixth Committee*, 10th to 12th, 27th and 28th meetings (A/C.6/65/SR.10–12, 27 and 28); ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Sixth Committee*, 12th, 13th, 17th and 29th meetings (A/C.6/66/SR.12, 13, 17 and 29); and ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Sixth Committee*, 12th, 13th, 24th and 25th meetings (A/C.6/67/SR.12, 13, 24 and 25).

*Reiterating its commitment* to fighting impunity, and noting the views expressed by States that the legitimacy and credibility of the use of universal jurisdiction are best ensured by its responsible and judicious application consistent with international law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared on the basis of comments and observations of Governments and relevant observers;[86]

2. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall continue its consideration of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, without prejudice to the consideration of this topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for this purpose decides to establish, at its sixty-eighth session, a working group of the Sixth Committee to continue to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction;[87]

3. *Invites* Member States and relevant observers, as appropriate, to submit, before 30 April 2013, information and observations on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, including, where appropriate, information on the relevant applicable international treaties and their national legal rules and judicial practice, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report based on such information and observations;

4. *Decides* that the Working Group shall be open to all Member States and that relevant observers to the General Assembly will be invited to participate in the work of the Working Group;

5. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction".

## RESOLUTION 67/99

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/473, para. 10)[88]

### 67/99. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming*, in all its aspects, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted on 8 September 2006,[89] which enhances the overall framework for the efforts of the international community to effectively counter the scourge of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and recalling the first, second and third biennial reviews of the Strategy, on 4 and 5 September 2008, 8 September 2010, and 28 and 29 June 2012 respectively, and the debates that were held on those occasions,[90]

*Recalling* its resolutions 62/272 of 5 September 2008, 64/297 of 8 September 2010 and 66/282 of 29 June 2012,

*Recalling also* its resolution 66/10 of 18 November 2011,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[91]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[92]

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[86] A/67/116; see also A/66/93 and Add.1 and A/65/181.

[87] The Working Group will take into account the informal working paper of the Working Group at the sixty-sixth session (A/C.6/66/WG.3/1).

[88] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Canada on behalf of the Bureau.

[89] Resolution 60/288.

[90] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Plenary Meetings*, 117th to 120th meetings (A/62/PV.117–120); ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 116th and 117th meetings (A/64/PV.116 and 117); and ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 118th to 120th meetings (A/66/PV.118–120).

[91] Resolution 50/6.

[92] Resolution 55/2.

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[93] and reaffirming in particular the section on terrorism,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996,

*Recalling* all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and Security Council resolutions on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

*Convinced* of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

*Deeply disturbed* by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

*Reaffirming its strong condemnation* of the heinous acts of terrorism that have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage, including those which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001, and those that have occurred since,

*Reaffirming also its strong condemnation* of the atrocious and deliberate attacks that have occurred against United Nations offices in various parts of the world,

*Affirming* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law and must adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

*Stressing* the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and the relevant international conventions,

*Noting* the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism in monitoring the implementation of that resolution, including the taking of the necessary financial, legal and technical measures by States and the ratification or acceptance of the relevant international conventions and protocols,

*Mindful* of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

*Mindful also* of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and effectively suppress international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

*Reiterating its call upon* States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there is a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

*Emphasizing* that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation and success in combating terrorism, and welcoming the various initiatives to this end,

*Reaffirming* that no terrorist act can be justified in any circumstances,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005, and bearing in mind that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

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[93] Resolution 60/1.

*Taking note* of recent developments and initiatives at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and suppress international terrorism, including those of the African Union, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Bali Counter-Terrorism Process, the Central American Integration System, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the Council of Europe, the East African Community, the Economic Community of West African States, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Free Trade Association, the European Union, the Global Counterterrorism Forum, the Group of Eight, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the League of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of American States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Southern African Development Community and the World Customs Organization,

*Noting* regional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of, and adherence to, regional conventions,

*Recalling* its decision in resolutions 54/110 of 9 December 1999, 55/158 of 12 December 2000, 56/88 of 12 December 2001, 57/27 of 19 November 2002, 58/81 of 9 December 2003, 59/46 of 2 December 2004, 60/43 of 8 December 2005, 61/40 of 4 December 2006, 62/71 of 6 December 2007, 63/129 of 11 December 2008, 64/118 of 16 December 2009, 65/34 of 6 December 2010 and 66/105 of 9 December 2011 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

*Recalling also* the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, adopted in Tehran on 31 August 2012,[94] which reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on terrorism and reaffirmed its previous initiative calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,[95] as well as other relevant initiatives,

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions 57/219 of 18 December 2002, 58/187 of 22 December 2003, 59/191 of 20 December 2004, 60/158 of 16 December 2005, 61/171 of 19 December 2006, 62/159 of 18 December 2007, 63/185 of 18 December 2008, 64/168 of 18 December 2009, 65/221 of 21 December 2010 and 66/171 of 19 December 2011,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[96] and the oral report of the Chair of the Working Group established by the Sixth Committee at the sixty-seventh session of the Assembly,[97]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[89] as well as the resolutions relating to the first, second and third biennial reviews of the Strategy,[98] in all its aspects at the international, regional, subregional and national levels without delay, including by mobilizing resources and expertise;

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[94] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I, paras. 225 and 226.

[95] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, paras. 149–162.

[96] A/67/162 and Add.1.

[97] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Sixth Committee*, 23rd meeting (A/C.6/67/SR.23).

[98] Resolutions 62/272, 64/297 and 66/282.

3. *Recalls* the pivotal role of the General Assembly in following up the implementation and the updating of the Strategy, looks forward to the fourth biennial review and in this regard recalls its invitation to the Secretary-General to contribute to the future deliberations of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General when doing so to provide information on relevant activities within the Secretariat to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system;

4. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider in particular the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of General Assembly resolution 51/210;

6. *Also reiterates its call upon* all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

8. *Expresses concern* at the increase in incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking with demands for ransom and/or political concessions by terrorist groups, and expresses the need to address this issue;

9. *Urges* States to ensure that their nationals or other persons and entities within their territory that wilfully provide or collect funds for the benefit of persons or entities who commit, or attempt to commit, facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts are punished by penalties consistent with the grave nature of such acts;

10. *Reminds* States of their obligations under relevant international conventions and protocols and Security Council resolutions, including Council resolution 1373 (2001), to ensure that perpetrators of terrorist acts are brought to justice;

11. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

12. *Recalls* the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[99] the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,[100] the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[101] and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[102] and urges all States to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to these instruments;

13. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and Council resolution 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,[103] the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[104] the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, the domestic legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those

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[99] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[100] Adopted on 8 July 2005 by the Conference to Consider and Adopt Proposed Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

[101] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/21).

[102] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/22).

[103] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2149, No. 37517.

[104] Ibid., vol. 2178, No. 38349.

conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international and regional organizations to that end;

14. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to and implementing the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 13 above;

15. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraphs 12 and 13 of General Assembly resolution 66/105, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

16. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210, and calls upon all States to implement them;

17. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts;

18. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make the best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

19. *Notes* that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre has commenced its activities within the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force in New York and that the Centre is performing its duties in supporting the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and encourages all Members States to collaborate with the Centre and to contribute to the implementation of its activities within the Task Force;

20. *Requests* the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna to continue its efforts to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and recognizes, in the context of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), its role in assisting States in becoming parties to and implementing the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, including the most recent among them, and in strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism, including through national capacity-building;

21. *Welcomes* the current efforts by the Secretariat to prepare the fourth edition of the publication *International Instruments related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism* in all official languages;

22. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism, as well as on intergovernmental meetings held by those organizations;

23. *Notes* the progress made in the elaboration of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism during the meeting of the Working Group established by the Sixth Committee during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, and welcomes continuing efforts to that end;

24. *Decides* to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and continuing to discuss the item included in its agenda by Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations;

25. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 shall, on an expedited basis, continue to elaborate the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and to discuss the item included in its agenda by Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations;

26. *Further decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 8 to 12 April 2013 in order to fulfil the mandate referred to in paragraph 25 above and that its future meetings shall be decided upon subject to substantive progress in its work;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work;

28. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session in the event of the completion of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism;

29. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on progress made in the implementation of its mandate;

30. *Encourages* all Member States to redouble their efforts during the intersessional period towards resolving any outstanding issues;

31. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

## RESOLUTION 67/100

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/477, para. 8)[105]

### 67/100. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[106]

*Recalling* Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[107] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[108] and the responsibilities of the host country,

*Recalling also* that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 34 of its report;[106]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions, and urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities and if violations occur to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Notes* the problems experienced by some Permanent Missions to the United Nations in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,[109] and notes that the Committee shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

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[105] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus.

[106] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/67/26).

[107] Resolution 22 A (I).

[108] See resolution 169 (II).

[109] A/AC.154/355, annex.

4. *Requests* the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and in this regard notes the long-standing positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

5. *Notes* the concerns expressed by some delegations concerning the denial and delay of entry visas to representatives of Member States;

6. *Also notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States in a timely manner, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[108] to travel to New York on United Nations business and that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts, including visa issuance, to facilitate the participation of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate;

7. *Further notes* that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States since the time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings;

8. *Notes with concern* the difficulties that continue to be experienced by some Permanent Missions to the United Nations in obtaining suitable banking services, and welcomes the continued efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for those Permanent Missions;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

10. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an "as available" basis;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

12. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

## RESOLUTION 67/101

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/480, para. 7)[110]

### 67/101. Observer status for the Andean Development Corporation in the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Andean Development Corporation,

1. *Decides* to invite the Andean Development Corporation to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[110] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

## RESOLUTION 67/102

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2012, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/67/556, para. 7)[111]

### 67/102. Observer status for the European Organization for Nuclear Research in the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the European Organization for Nuclear Research,

1. *Decides* to invite the European Organization for Nuclear Research to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[111] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

# Annex I

## Allocation of agenda items[a]

### Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly:
   (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly.
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.
7. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee.
8. General debate.

### A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

9. Report of the Economic and Social Council.
10. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin.
11. Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declarations on HIV/AIDS.
12. Sport for peace and development.
13. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa.
14. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.
15. Culture of peace.
16. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order.
29. People's empowerment and a peace-centric development model.

### B. Maintenance of international peace and security

30. Report of the Security Council.
31. Report of the Peacebuilding Commission.
32. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict.
33. Prevention of armed conflict.
34. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development.
35. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic.

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[a] Organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization.

36. The situation in the Middle East.

37. Question of Palestine.

38. The situation in Afghanistan.

39. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

40. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte.

41. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

42. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development.

43. Question of Cyprus.

44. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

45. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

46. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti.

47. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security.

48. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait.

## C. Development of Africa

63. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support:
    (*a*) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;
    (*b*) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

## D. Promotion of human rights

64. Report of the Human Rights Council.

## E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

70. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:
    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;
    (*b*) Assistance to the Palestinian people;
    (*c*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions.

## F. Promotion of justice and international law

71. Report of the International Court of Justice.

72. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

73. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

74. Report of the International Criminal Court.

75. Oceans and the law of the sea:

    (*a*) Oceans and the law of the sea;

    (*b*) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

83. The rule of law at the national and international levels.

## G. Disarmament

85. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

## I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

106. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.

107. Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund.

108. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations.

109. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:

     (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;

     (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council.

110. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections:

     (*a*) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

     (*b*) Election of thirty members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

     (*c*) Election of five members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission;

     (*d*) Election of eighteen members of the Human Rights Council.

111. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:

     (*f*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

     (*g*) Confirmation of the appointment of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme;

     (*h*) Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

112. Admission of new Members to the United Nations.

113. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

114. Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade.

115. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations.

116. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

117. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters.

118. Strengthening of the United Nations system:

     (*a*) Strengthening of the United Nations system;

     (*b*) Central role of the United Nations system in global governance.

119. United Nations reform: measures and proposals.

120. Multilingualism.

121. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations:

    (*a*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union;

    (*b*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization;

    (*c*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

    (*d*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

    (*e*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;

    (*f*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

    (*g*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries;

    (*h*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

    (*i*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;

    (*j*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;

    (*k*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community;

    (*l*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

    (*m*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System;

    (*n*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States;

    (*o*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

    (*p*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

    (*q*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States;

    (*r*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

    (*s*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

    (*t*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization;

    (*u*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization;

    (*v*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;

    (*w*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative.

122. Follow-up to the recommendations on administrative management and internal oversight of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Programme.

123. Global health and foreign policy.

124. International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

125. International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

126. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

127. Addressing the socioeconomic needs of individuals, families and societies affected by autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disorders.

131. Programme planning.

## First Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

### G. Disarmament

86. Reduction of military budgets.
87. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.
88. Maintenance of international security -- good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe.
89. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.
90. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.
91. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
92. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
93. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament.
94. General and complete disarmament:
    - (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;
    - (*b*) Towards an arms trade treaty: establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms;
    - (*c*) Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;
    - (*d*) Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol;
    - (*e*) Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;
    - (*f*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;
    - (*g*) Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;
    - (*h*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;
    - (*i*) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures:
    - (*j*) Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control;
    - (*k*) Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status;
    - (*l*) The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation;
    - (*m*) Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources;
    - (*n*) Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities;
    - (*o*) Disarmament and non-proliferation education;
    - (*p*) Relationship between disarmament and development;
    - (*q*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;
    - (*r*) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;
    - (*s*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;
    - (*t*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

(*u*) Regional disarmament;

(*v*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(*w*) Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

(*x*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments;

(*y*) Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

(*z*) United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

(*aa*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(*bb*) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

(*cc*) Reducing nuclear danger;

(*dd*) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;

(*ee*) Nuclear disarmament;

(*ff*) Missiles.

95. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

(*a*) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

(*b*) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

(*c*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

(*d*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(*e*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(*f*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

(*g*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(*h*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa.

96. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

(*a*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(*b*) Report of the Disarmament Commission.

97. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.

98. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

99. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

100. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

101. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

102. Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

116. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

131. Programme planning.

## Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**B. Maintenance of international peace and security**

49. University for Peace.

50. Effects of atomic radiation.

51. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

52. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

53. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories.

54. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

55. Questions relating to information.

56. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations.

57. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

58. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

59. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

60. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

116. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

131. Programme planning.

## Second Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences**

17. Information and communications technologies for development.

18. Macroeconomic policy questions:
    - (*a*) International trade and development;
    - (*b*) International financial system and development;
    - (*c*) External debt sustainability and development.

19. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference.

20. Sustainable development:

    (*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

    (*b*) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

    (*c*) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

    (*d*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;

    (*e*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

    (*f*) Convention on Biological Diversity;

    (*g*) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session;

    (*h*) Harmony with Nature;

    (*i*) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy.

21. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

22. Globalization and interdependence:

    (*a*) Globalization and interdependence;

    (*b*) International migration and development.

23. Groups of countries in special situations:

    (*a*) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

    (*b*) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation.

24. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

    (*a*) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017);

    (*b*) Industrial development cooperation.

25. Operational activities for development:

    (*a*) Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

    (*b*) South-South cooperation.

26. Agriculture development and food security.

## B. Maintenance of international peace and security

61. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

116. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

131. Programme planning.

## Third Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences**

27. Social development:

    (*a*) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

    (*b*) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;

    (*c*) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing.

28. Advancement of women:

    (*a*) Advancement of women;

    (*b*) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

**B. Maintenance of international peace and security**

62. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

**D. Promotion of human rights**

64. Report of the Human Rights Council.

65. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

    (*a*) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;

    (*b*) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.

66. Rights of indigenous peoples:

    (*a*) Rights of indigenous peoples;

    (*b*) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

67. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:

    (*a*) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

    (*b*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

68. Right of peoples to self-determination.

69. Promotion and protection of human rights:

    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;
- (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

**H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations**

103. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

104. International drug control.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

116. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

131. Programme planning.

## Fifth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

**I. Organizational, administrative and other matters**

111. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:
    - (*a*) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
    - (*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;
    - (*c*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;
    - (*d*) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission;
    - (*e*) Appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee.

116. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

128. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors:
    - (*a*) United Nations;
    - (*b*) United Nations peacekeeping operations;
    - (*c*) International Trade Centre;
    - (*d*) United Nations University;
    - (*e*) Capital master plan;
    - (*f*) United Nations Development Programme;
    - (*g*) United Nations Children's Fund;
    - (*h*) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
    - (*i*) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
    - (*j*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
    - (*k*) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;
    - (*l*) United Nations Population Fund;
    - (*m*) United Nations Human Settlements Programme;
    - (*n*) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(*o*) United Nations Office for Project Services;

(*p*) International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994;

(*q*) International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;

(*r*) United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

129. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

130. Programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013.

131. Programme planning.

132. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations.

133. Pattern of conferences.

134. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.

135. Human resources management.

136. Joint Inspection Unit.

137. United Nations common system.

138. United Nations pension system.

139. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

140. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

141. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

142. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

143. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

144. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

145. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations.

146. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

147. Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei.

148. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad.

149. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.

150. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

151. Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

152. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor.

153. Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste.

154. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia.

155. Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

156. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.

157. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia.

158. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East:

    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

159. Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan.

160. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.

161. Financing of the United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic.

162. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara.

163. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

164. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009).

## Sixth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

### F. Promotion of justice and international law

76. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission.

77. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-fifth session.

78. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

79. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions.

80. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.

81. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.

82. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

83. The rule of law at the national and international levels.

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